

# THE North-China Herald

AND

## SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXII., No. 628.

SHANGHAI, JUNE 10, 1879.

PRICE, Tls. 12 ½ AN.

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### Miscellaneous Intelligence.

#### LATEST MAIL DATES.

|                      |         |                 |        |
|----------------------|---------|-----------------|--------|
| England, .....       | Apr. 25 | Hankow, .....   | June 7 |
| San Francisco, ..... | 19      | Yokohama, ..... | May 27 |
| Hongkong, .....      | June 5  | Nagasaki, ..... | 31     |
| Tientsin, .....      | 5       | Foochow, .....  | June 4 |

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.  
Hongkong, .....

### DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on the 3rd inst., JESSIE MABEL, infant daughter of Edwin and Jessie Byrne, aged 7 months.

At Hankow, on the 30th May, suddenly, ALFRED EDWARD MATHEWS, Imperial Maritime Customs, aged 33.

At Hamburg, on the 1st inst., of typhoid fever, WILLY, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Müller of Shanghai, aged 4½ years.

### PASSENGERS.

#### DEPARTED.

Per str. *Europe*, for Foochow—Mr. Robert Wyper, en route to London by the steamer *Glencalgies*, and Mr. H. Sutherland.

#### ARRIVED.

Per str. *Hiroshima Maru*, from Japan—Miss Porter, Miss Kirby, Miss E. McClatchie, Messrs. A. Thurburn, J. O. Fuller, G. Tenequel, and Tanyeda.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, from Hankow—Mr. W. Henderson.

Per str. *Yangtze*, from Hongkong—Mr. A. Amunuxien.

Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—Miss Porter.

Per str. *Teheran*, from Singapore—Mr. Stanley. From Hongkong—Hon. P. Ryrie.

Per str. *Pautah*, from Tientsin—Messrs. Tornoë and Busi.

Per str. *Kiangpiau*, from Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Allen and child, and Mr. Ferring.

Per str. *Appin*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Messrs. Buchanan, J. Waite, Campbell and Strickland.

Per str. *Kiangkwan*, from Hankow—Mr. Hyde. From Wuhu—Mr. Holland.

Per str. *El Dorado*, from Tientsin—Mrs. Cooper and two children.

#### LEAVING.

Per str. *Zambesi*, for Southampton—Messrs. A. Smith, James Parkinson, H. T. Seabrook, H. Tornoë. For Hongkong—Messrs. Banyard, Dubuffet and P. Ryrie.

### METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

| Day of Month. | Barometer. |                 | Therm. |      | Hygrom.   |           | Wind.  |            | Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours. |
|---------------|------------|-----------------|--------|------|-----------|-----------|--------|------------|----------------------------------------|
|               | 9 A.M.     | Attached Therm. | Max.   | Min. | Dry bulb. | Wet bulb. | Force. | Direction. |                                        |
| Jun 4         | 29.90      | 68.5            | 75.5   | 61.0 | 67.0      | 64.0      | 1      | E. N. E.   | ..                                     |
| 5             | 29.79      | 70.5            | 84.0   | 65.5 | 70.5      | 67.0      | 1      | S. E.      | ..                                     |
| 6             | 29.75      | 71.5            | 82.0   | 70.0 | 72.0      | 68.0      | 0      | Z.         | ..                                     |
| 7             | 29.78      | 69.0            | 78.0   | 66.5 | 67.0      | 66.0      | 2      | E.         | ..                                     |
| 8             | 29.70      | 71.0            | 68.0   | 70.0 | 69.0      | 67.0      | 1      | N. W.      | ..                                     |
| 9             | 29.80      | 70.0            | 77.0   | 66.5 | 69.0      | 68.0      | 1      | N. E.      | ..                                     |
| 10            | 29.70      | 69.0            | 82.0   | 65.0 | 68.0      | 65.0      | 1      | S. E.      | ..                                     |

#### EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED, and Single Copies sold, by GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill,

LONDON (E.C.)

THE publication of the North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette commenced at 4.30 P.M.

### The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 1879.

THE position of affairs in Russia is calculated to arouse the keenest apprehension and to excite sympathy for that unhappy country, even in the breasts of hardened Turcophiles. In spite of the ostentatious assumption of strength and solvency, which has been so long kept up by the most unscrupulous means and the most audacious misrepresentations, a section of the English Press has for years in season and out of season pointed to the evidences of disaffection amongst the peasantry, bankruptcy amongst the merchants, and corruption in official life, and these public writers seem to have been only too accurate in their information. More than fifty years ago, the cloud no bigger than a man's hand, which indicated the impending storm, was apparent. There were then demands for a constitution, but the Czar Nicholas, who had just mounted the throne, repressed the agitation with a strong hand. For thirty years the malcontents were kept down, but Alexander has found the popular party too strong for him, and he has allowed himself to be surrounded by a group of Counsellors who are hated as the sansculottes hated Foulon. The latest programme of the Socialist or revolutionary party is distinct in its language:—"Since we are unable to obtain any redress in a legal way, and that because in Russia, not the Czar but those about the Czar, really govern the country, we shall, unless attention is paid to our wishes, enter upon the illegal way, and we shall shoot, stab, and murder, until our demands are satisfied and the Camarilla is swept from the face of the earth."

The abuses of the Government seem almost to invite violence. Take the instances recently quoted by the *Contemporary Review*, where we find an account of the tortures inflicted by the tax-collectors under the direction of a commissary of rural police called

Popof. "The evidence went to show," we read, "that the accused Popof, being gifted by nature with a peculiar ferocity, took lively pleasure in such scenes. He passed the sentence on individuals who were clearly exempted by law in consideration of their age or of illness, and in the carrying out of the sentences he transformed the sentences into real torture. Some of the details were nearly incredible. By his orders the rods were heated in an oven to make them more flexible, and were sprinkled with salt, or else rubbed with a wet rag dipped in salted water." It is hardly fair for a country in which such practices occur to be severe in its condemnation of the tribunals of Turkey and China. The ignorance of the people is dense, as is proved by a recent incident which is published by the *St. Petersburg Government Messenger*. "An unfortunate woman was suspected of being a sorceress, and some cases of epilepsy were attributed to her spells. The headmen and seniors of the villages resolved to put a stop to the mischief, and assembled accordingly. They then calmly surrounded the poor creature's hut, nailed up the doors and windows to prevent her escape, and set it on fire. The whole crowd, numbering 200 men, remained shouting and jeering until the suspected witch and her dwelling were a heap of ashes. It is added the sum of 21 roubles and 90 copecks (nearly £3 6s.) was collected and offered to the rural policeman as a bribe to secure his silence. But he rejected it, and so this terrible tragedy came to light."

These cases are straws which show the direction of the current. They indicate unmistakably that the country is under iron tyranny, and is in the thick darkness of superstition. Oppressive rulers and an ignorant peasantry are the factors of revolution, and when we know that the Nihilists' doctrines are spreading everywhere, indeed if rumour be true have tainted the heir to the throne, we shall not wait long for the blaze. The recent attempt on the Czar's life was full of menace and suggestion of closely impending trouble. The "political infection seems on the increase," said the *Times* correspondent in a letter dated the first of April, relating the attack on the Chief of Gendarmerie, and a fortnight later he had to report the desperate attempt of Ivan Sokoloff on the life of the Czar. The relapse into the accustomed attitude of loyalty which followed the news of deliverance of "the beloved Sovereign" will not in all probability last long, and some

say that the recent attempt at assassination is to be used as a lever to induce Alexander to abdicate. The system of espionage so long employed by the Government on the Socialists is now turned on the Government itself. The three highly-placed officials, in presence of whom General Drenteln made fun of the ill-spelt threatening letter in which sentence of death was first announced to him, have been arrested since. The chief of the third section received, a few hours after the conversation with these gentlemen, a fresh copy of the sentence on beautiful folio paper in splendid letters and faultless language. This proves of course that his jest was overheard by a spy. The revolutionary newspaper, *Zemlia i Svoboda*, or *Land and Liberty*, appears only once or twice a month, and crops up in the public offices, in barracks, in manufactories, in restaurants. "The Councillor of State finds them between the leaves of his Conservative journal; the Serjeant finds them folded inside his orderly book."

It contains proclamations of coming vengeance on officials, which read like the mysterious documents of the *Holy Vehm*, and is illustrated with pictures, in one of which the victims of the Imperial rule were represented as spectres dancing the dance of death around the Czar and his murdered Chief of Police. No one can find the printing offices whence these threatening documents emanate. Lately 300 persons were arrested, but there was not a shadow of evidence against them, and the Socialist organs taunt the Government with the incapacity of their detective police. Altogether the state of affairs is full of the gravest peril. Bursts of class hatred and mutual suspicion, acts of repressive tyranny followed by murders and plots, succeed each other, and we may say of the realm of Alexander to-day, what was said of France before the great revolution, that "all the symptoms met with in history previous to great changes and revolutions in Government, now exist and daily increase in Russia."

### Summary of News.

The English mail of the 25th April arrived on Thursday night, the 5th June, by the P. & O. steamer *Teheran*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the P. & O. steamer *Zambesi*.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Via Succ.)

Supplied to the "*N. C. Daily News*," London, 4th June.

A Treaty has been concluded with the Portuguese Government, granting facilities for the passage of British troops and mu-

nitions of war across Portuguese territory in Africa.

Intelligence from the Cape, of 24th May, states that the advance of the British Army Corps had been delayed in consequence of the difficulty of transport.

8th June.

England and France have finally decided to decline to interfere in the Egyptian administration. The British Consul-General has energetically protested against the policy of the Khedive.

Cetewayo has made peace proposals, but the negotiations have failed in consequence of the refusal of the British to make any terms; but an unconditional surrender is expected.

We are glad to find by the minutes of the Municipal Council meeting held on the 29th ult., and which are given on another page, that the protest against allowing the destructive explosion during the recent torchlight procession to pass by without investigation, has been followed up by the Council, it having been resolved to appoint a committee to investigate and report upon the cause of the accident. Further, it was resolved to circulate a subscription list on behalf of the natives injured by the explosion, and this laudable action is, we are glad to know, receiving liberal response. General Grant headed the list at the Shanghai Club with a donation of \$25.—The Gatling gun is to be well supplied with blank ammunition, authority having been given for the purchase of 2,000 or 3,000 rounds. It would not be a bad thing if the Council were to consider the propriety of disposing of the brace of unwieldy howitzers now in use, and supplying their place with two more Gatlings.

The minutes of a meeting of the China Famine Relief Fund Committee, held on Friday, are published on another page.—Some further subscriptions to the Fund have been received, amounting to Tls. 436.72, bringing up the total collected to date to Tls. 204,139.37, of which a balance of Tls. 973.78 remains in the hands of the Treasurer.

Some additional experiments were made on Thursday with the Electric light, at Mr. J. D. Bishop's godown, Hongkew, in the presence of several ladies and gentlemen, who were invited to attend. The apparatus may now be considered perfected sufficiently for the public experiment, which it is understood will shortly be made. We described last week at considerable length, the experiments made previously, so that repetition is unnecessary. Suffice it to say that those conducted on Thursday were if possible even more successful, and beyond all doubt proved the usefulness and purity of the light and the certainty of its ultimate adoption when its merits come to be more generally understood and appreciated. At present it is, as several other matters that are now in common use were at their beginning, the Penny Post for instance, clouded by Chinese-like clinging to old things and old custom; but the clouds of obstruction and prejudice will ultimately, and probably sooner than many people expect, be cleared away, and the course of scientific progress in regard to the Electric light be

allowed free action. It is a light that cannot long remain eclipsed.

It is stated that Mr. J. Porter has received the appointment of private Secretary to Mr. Robert Hart.

The collections at the Cathedral on Sunday last amounted to \$468, and are to be devoted to the church expenses.

The *Daily Press* states that during the time Sir Thomas Wade remains in China he will revise and amplify, with the view of publishing new editions, several of his works which at the present time are out of print.

During General Grant's visit to Shanghai, he gave Mr. W. Saunders a sitting for his portrait, and the result is a capital—nay, a “speaking”—likeness, done in what is termed cabinet size. It certainly is one of the best specimens of photographic art yet produced in Shanghai, and while being an appropriate *souvenir* of the General's visit to these Settlements, confers the lustre of credit on the studio in which it was produced.

Among the other local incidents connected with General Grant's late visit to Shanghai, it ought not to be omitted to be mentioned that, in company with Mr. F. P. Knight, he paid a visit to “The Farm,” inspected the premises and stock, tasted the dairy produce, &c. On leaving, he expressed his surprise at finding such a well-appointed and fitted-up establishment of the kind in the Far East, while as to the quality of the milk and butter, the General was certain he had never tasted anything superior in the United States or anywhere else during his excursion round the world.—The native modesty of “the Farmer” prevented him giving us these particulars at the proper date, and it was only by the merest accident we heard of this interesting visit having been paid.

The Shanghai Public Band gave their first performance at the Public Gardens on Wednesday evening. The weather was gloriously fine, and the attendance numerous, including a large number of ladies and children. The music being good, two hours of considerable enjoyment were spent.

News of a somewhat curious case of collision between a small junk and a tea steamer on the Yangtze, has been received, complaint regarding which, it is said, was first made at Chinkiang, and the name of the steamer alleged to have caused the mischief, which includes the drowning of two of the junk's crew, given. The complaint, however, it is further said, was not made until four or five days after the occurrence, and the whole affair seems at present so cloudy that Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, we hear, is to proceed to Chinkiang to-day, for purposes of investigation.

Vice-Admiral Coote, C.B., took his departure on Thursday afternoon, in the *Vigilant*, for Japan, to rejoin his flagship the *Iron Duke*, calling at the Naval Yard for stores.

A bandsman of H.M. despatch vessel *Vigilant* having died in the General Hospital, his remains were on Thursday morning interred with naval honours.

H.M.'s gunvessel *Maggie* arrived in port on Friday, from a cruise, and left again yesterday.

The French corvette *Champlain* has sailed for Nagasaki.

H.I.G.M. gunboat *Wolf*, Captain Becks, arrived in port on Thursday from Ningpo.

We are authorised by Mr. Coutts, who piloted the *Loudoun Castle* from the scene of her accident, to give the most emphatic contradiction to the statements made publicly on Friday, and which obtained wide circulation, that she touched the ground again at the South Bank. No such thing occurred, and it seems impossible to account for the utterance of such unfounded statements.

Among our Outport news will be found a graphic account from our Wuhu correspondent of the running ashore and floating off of the *Loudoun Castle*, at a point three miles below Haines Point in the river Yangtze.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. have received a telegram to the effect that the *Glencoe* arrived at Singapore at 7.30 p.m. on the 2nd inst., having made the passage in seven days five hours, which is three hours less than the *Glencoe's* recorded time last year, and she beat the *Loudoun Castle*. The *Glencoe* took in 1,100 tons of coals, and left again at 3.30 a.m. on the 3rd, making her stay in port exactly eight hours. The same telegram states that the *Glenartney* arrived in Singapore at 2.30 p.m. on the 7th inst., having made the passage in 7 days 17 hours, which is an improvement of two hours on her time last year. She only stayed three hours and a half in port, leaving at 6 p.m. the same day.

The steamers *Feronia*, *Glencarn*, *Afghan*, and *Orestes*, all from Hankow, for London, passed Woosung during Tuesday afternoon. It is expected that the steamers *Lord of the Isles* and *Malabar* will be the next to leave. The steamer *Radnorshire*, from Hankow, passed Woosung on Sunday evening. The *Malabar*, it is thought, will be the next steamer down, followed by the *Hankow*.

The Shanghai Temperance Union records that during the three days the U.S. flagship *Richmond* was at this port, no fewer than forty-five of her men signed the pledge.—The same paper accounts for the noticeable absence of seamen from the anniversary meeting, tea, and entertainment of the Shanghai Temperance Society, by saying, “We know that three hundred invitations were sent afloat. We know the Committee did its best to bring the meeting to the knowledge of seamen. Still they did not appear in as great force as was expected and hoped. Perhaps the following will explain the absence of some. The men on board of some merchant vessels were kept in ignorance of the tea meeting by their officers. This has been told by the men themselves since the meeting. The invitation did not get forward of the cabin.”—Seventy men signed the total abstinence pledge in Shanghai during last week, and fourteen new members, most of them from afloat, were initiated in the “Shanghai Lodge, No. 4,” of good Templars.

The *Sin-pao* of Thursday is responsible for the following:—“The wife of Mr. Ch'ü, in Hongkew, has recently borne four children at one birth, two daughters and two sons”—a very unusual occurrence in China, to say the least of it.

We hear that one of the prisoners convicted a month ago for stealing ginseng

from a foreign cargo-boat, died in the Shantung Road Hospital on Wednesday. He was sentenced to receive three hundred blows, which were given, and to six months' imprisonment.

The native prisoner who escaped from the Central Police Station about a fortnight ago has been captured. It was understood that the gateman who was on duty at the time prisoner walked out was suspended, with the promise that if he captured the delinquent he would be reinstated. He according set to work with great determination, and it is said tracked the man to Sunkiang; at all events he returned with him on Friday forenoon. Later in the day the gateman had resumed his duties.

The account given on another page by a thoroughly-informed correspondent at Peking of the exceedingly cunning action of the Empresses-Regent in diverting the true mode of succession to the Throne of China on the demise of the late Emperor Tung-chih, merely to prolong their own power,—and also the tragic mode adopted by the Secretary Wu to bring the matter to light,—will be read with considerable interest. It reads more like a page from a Chinese novel than a narrative of facts of only yesterday's date, as it were, and almost leads one to wonder how such things can be done in these so-called enlightened days—but with regard to China, it is truthfully said, “as it was in the beginning,” etc. It is satisfactory to find that the treacherous affair has found its way into the *Peking Gazette* of the 15th May, a translation of which we hope to receive shortly. The death of the late Empress, happening so near to that of her Imperial husband, was at the time considered to be somewhat mysterious, and may not improbably be referred in some measure to that desire for continued power, which actuated the two old ladies to withhold the adoption of a son to Tung-chih. However, the translation given elsewhere speaks for itself, and deserves careful reading.

The letter of our WENCHOW correspondent, respecting the capabilities of that young but improving port, is given in another page, and is worthy the consideration of the mercantile members of our community. The remarks, too, respecting the action of the C.M.S.N. Co., in opening trade with the new port, also deserve attentive perusal.

News has been received of the movements of the Central Asian expedition of Count Szechenyi, from SUICHOW FU in Kansuh. The expedition had arrived so far without impediment. Count Szechenyi had an interview there with H.E. Tso Tsung-t'ang, and requested from him a safe conduct to Lake Lob, exhibiting his passport from the Tsung-li Yamén and his letter of recommendation. The Viceroy alleged the dangers of the road, and declared his inability to protect the expedition. He could not, he said, refuse to permit the European members to proceed, but must forbid positively any Chinese to accompany them. Under the circumstances, and bearing in mind the lateness of the season, Count Szechenyi reluctantly gave up the proposed expedition across the Kumtagh to Lobnor. He was, however, in hopes to start shortly



for Hlassa by way of the Kokonor, and was making the necessary arrangements. The refusal of the Viceroy to permit the passage of the expedition to Lohnor is most unfortunate at the present moment, when the negotiations regarding the rendition of Kuldja are matters of European interest. It would seem that the main ambition of the Chinese Government is to restore this part of Central Asia, so far as lies in its power, to its former condition of isolation. Considering the very delicate position of affairs along the Russian frontier, their determination is little better than suicidal.

Our correspondent at CHEFOO writes that he has heard there is still drought in Shensi, and if rain does not fall, there will, very likely, be another famine.

The HANKOW Tea Market Report of 6th June says since the last issue of this Report on the 23rd ulto., the Tea Market has been freely supplied with musters from both the Hankow and Kiukiang districts, and settlements recorded are large, making the total from the commencement of the season to date, as under:—

| 1879.                        | 1878.           |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Hankow Tea...360,090 ½-chts. | 362,420 ½-chts. |
| Kiukiang „...187,580 „       | 180,400 „       |
| 547,670 „                    | 542,820 „       |

Prices for all but finest kinds declined materially during the last week in May, and settlements then made shewed relatively good value. Latterly, notwithstanding the advance in sterling, rates have exhibited rather an upward tendency for all but common kinds, of which our stock principally consists. Buying for Russia has continued on a much larger scale than last season. Details of the settlements during the past two weeks, together with the prices paid, will be found below. The following figures indicate the entire business to date (inclusive of Kiukiang Teas) as contrasted with the settlements to same date last year.

| 1879.                  | 1878.    | 1879.            |
|------------------------|----------|------------------|
| ½-chts.                | ½-chts.  | ½-chts.          |
| For England *360,090.. | 1862,550 | Decrease 102,510 |
| „ Russia...189,630..   | 80,270   | Increase 109,360 |
| „ Shanghai Nil.        | Nil.     | Nil.             |
| 547,670                | 542,820  |                  |

\*187,580 ½-chts Kiukiang Tea included.  
1180,400 ½-chts Kiukiang Tea included.

The total export of Hankow District Teas is 603,561 lbs. over that at same date last year, while re-exports shew a decrease of 592,354 lbs.

Teas bought this year to date are estimated to lay down in London at about the following prices:—

| 1879.        | 1878.         |
|--------------|---------------|
| 5,110 ½-chts | 34,770 ½-chts |
| 4,600 „      | 40,050 „      |
| 54,320 „     | 120,720 „     |
| 163,300 „    | 166,010 „     |
| 224,420 „    | 165,270 „     |
| 95,920 „     | 16,000 „      |
| 547,670 „    | 542,820 „     |

Business reported during the fortnight is as follows:—

| 1879.                      | 1878.           |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Settlements... 1,560 chts. | 35,720 chts.    |
| „ 347,290 ½-chts.          | 242,050 ½-chts. |
| „ 2,040 boxes.             | 1,640 boxes.    |

The following table exhibits the arrivals, settlements, shipments to Shanghai on native account, and stock at date (exclusive of Kiukiang Teas) as compared with last year:—

| Season.             | Arrivals. | Settlements.    | Stock. |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------|
| 1879 x 80...462,090 | 360,090   | 102,000 ½-chts. |        |
| 1878 x 79...397,020 | 362,420   | 35,000 „        |        |
| Increase ... 65,070 | ...       | 67,000 „        |        |
| Decrease... ..      | 2,330     | ...             |        |

The following are the departures for London:—

|                                           |                 |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| May 24th, Str. <i>Glencoe</i> , .....     | 2,808,798 lbs.  |
| „ 27th, „ <i>Loudoun Castle</i> , .....   | 2,710,733 „     |
| „ 29th, „ <i>Glenartney</i> , .....       | 2,336,194 „     |
| June 1st, „ <i>Glean</i> , .....          | 2,494,612 „     |
| „ 1st, „ <i>Affghan</i> , .....           | 2,502,748 „     |
| „ 1st, „ <i>Orestes</i> , .....           | 2,325,509 „     |
| „ 4th, „ <i>Lord of the Isles</i> , ..... | 2,751,144 „     |
|                                           | 17,929,738 lbs. |

Against in 8 vessels last year  
to 4th June, 1878 ..... } 19,436,509 lbs.

The s.s. *Feronia* cleared for Odessa on the 1st inst., with 1,587,949 lbs.

The export to date, as per Customs Returns, stands thus:—

|                                 | Re-exports.    |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Season 1879 x 80...13,954,946.. | 6,616,967 lbs. |
| „ 1878 x 79...13,351,385..      | 7,209,321 „    |
| „ 1877 x 78...19,411,105..      | 4,662,329 „    |
| „ 1876 x 77...26,849,820..      | 7,940,466 „    |

**Freights.**—The *Radnorshire* cleared last evening at £3 5s., cargo not yet circulated. The *Malabar* and *Flevers Castle* are loading at £3 10s., and the *Hankow* and *Argyle* at £3 5s. per ton. The through rate by mail steamer is £3 10s. per ton.

**Exchange.**—The comparative quotations are as under:—

|                                   |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| On London, Bank Bills on demand   | 5/31.....5/62 |
| Credits, 4 months' sight          | 5/51.....5/54 |
| Do. 6                             | 5/51.....5/74 |
| On Shanghai, Bank Bills on demand | 28 ¾.....3%   |
| 3 days' sight Paper               | 34 ¾.....34%  |
| On Hongkong, Bank Bills on demand | 28 ¾.....30%  |

For a variety of other news from the Outports, Japan, &c., see other pages.

#### FURTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE CHINA FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

|                                                                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| By Rev. John Hesse, of Calur, near Wurtemberg, per Rev. A. Foster, Marks 246, £12 0 7 | 46.56  |
| „ Lutheran & Methodist Churches in Salem, Va., U. S. A. per Rev. R. Lambuth           | 11.50  |
| „ Chinese per Rev. W. Muirhead, \$200 at 73.1                                         | 146.20 |
| „ Proceeds of gold watch, \$34 at 73.1                                                | 24.85  |
| „ Mrs. Jesse Stuart, of England, through Miss Kirkland \$30 at 73                     | 21.90  |
| „ Chinese per Rev. W. Muirhead..                                                      | 129.87 |
| „ Roseyards Congregation, Co., Antrim, per Rev. James Carson, Newchwang, £5           | 20.00  |
| „ Rev. H. Durand, special appeal to his parishioners as Harvest Thanksgiving Day..... | 35.84  |

|                                        |            |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| Tls.                                   | 436.72     |
| Amounts acknowledged .....             | 203,702.65 |
| Total collected to date...Sh. Tls.     | 204,139.37 |
| Balance in hands of Treasurer, ...Tls. | 973.78     |

Shanghai, 5th June.

#### GENERAL GRANT IN NORTH-CHINA.

In the *N.-C. Herald* of the 3rd June we gave an account of the reception of General Grant at Tientsin, and on another page appears a brief sketch of the General's voyage up the Peiho river, en route to Peking. Yesterday afternoon we were fortunate enough to receive from our indefatigable correspondent, a further budget of information respecting the distinguished traveller's progress, from which we compile the following narrative.

It is only right, however, that the fiasco at the Taku bar and forts, caused by the non-firing of the pre-arranged salutes, should be explained. It has been satisfactorily shown to H.E. the Viceroy that everything was ready on board the gunboats, and they were only waiting to arrive in the proper place—that is, near enough to be

heard—but the General in charge of the forts, seeing the *Ashuelot* steaming past the mark given him to commence his personal salutes, of course commenced to blaze away, as previously stated. At Tientsin everything was in order, as described in the former narrative.

It was said in our first report of the General's reception at Tientsin that the Viceroy made the first call. That was the case, and Mr. Consul Denny, in introducing General Grant to the Viceroy on board the *Ashuelot*, where H.E. Li called, said—General Grant, I now have the much anticipated pleasure of introducing to you China's greatest General and statesman, H.E. Grand Secretary and Viceroy Li.

The Viceroy gave the General a cordial and hearty welcome.

After the above introduction, as I have already written you, the General and Viceroy had a pleasant conversation of nearly one hour.

The party shortly afterwards landed, and were received as before described.

Mr. G. DETRING as Chairman of the Municipal Council, was spokesman, and said—General,—The number of foreigners at this port is but a small one, and cannot offer to you anything like the brilliant receptions which have marked the progress of Your Excellency round the Globe. However, they have desired me to tell you on the occasion of your setting foot on this shore, that they, too, highly appreciate what during your past eventful and glorious career you did for the sake of humanity, freedom, and progress, in leading the Great Republic through war to victory and peace. The English, French, Germans, Russians and other nationalities forming this community, gladly join their American fellow residents in wishing to Your Excellency and Mrs. Grant a hearty welcome.

General GRANT's reply was made in so low a tone that it was scarcely audible. He spoke, of course, to Mr. Detring, and was understood by those around to thank him, and the Tientsin community through him, for the reception they had given him; also expressing the great pleasure he felt in meeting them.

The Viceroy was delighted by his call on the General on board the *Ashuelot*, and returned home saying he felt honoured by having paid the first visit. On the following day, H.E. Li sent his officials in steam-launches to take the General and suite to his Yamén, and at 3.30 p.m., the Viceroy's private launch left the *Ashuelot*, having on board General Grant, Mr. Pethick, Mr. Holcombe, Mr. Detring, Colonel Grant, Commodore Young, Captain Johnson and Captain Belknap, with a body of Marines as a guard of honour. On landing at the bridge of boats, the General entered a chair made for the occasion, trimmed in yellow and of great richness; and in this manner he was carried to the Viceroy's Yamén. Here His Excellency met his distinguished guest, and with unusual honours personally became his guide. The entire open spaces both inside and outside the Yamén were lined with the finest troops. The



visit was indeed a most cordial one, His Excellency all through showing his guest the utmost deference and respect. After the usual, or rather unusual, amenities had been duly observed, the Viceroy and the General sat together for their photographs to be taken, and so gratified was His Excellency with all that had occurred that he at once intimated his intention to be present at the dinner to be given the same evening by the Senior Consul, Mr. Dillon, at the French Consulate, in the name of all the Consuls.

It should, however, first be mentioned that on the night of the General's landing, a sumptuous dinner was given by Mr. Denny, U.S. Consul, at which all the principal residents in the Settlement were present, and after which the General and Mrs. Grant held a formal reception, which was also very numerously attended.

Great preparations had been made for this festivity. In the courtyard of the Consulate there are many trees of from 20 to 30 feet in height, and a pavilion was built enclosing them, the pavilion being further lavishly adorned with flowers and evergreens, flags and variously coloured bunting. When lighted up with variegated Canton and other lanterns, the effect was simply enchanting, and elicited the loudest encomiums from all present.

Mr. Holcombe left Tientsin early on the 29th May, for Peking, to make all necessary arrangements for the General and party's reception there, but he was to return and meet them at Tungchow.

Captain Rickman and the officers of the British gunvessel *Frolic*, turned out a guard of honour, and escorted the General to the U.S. Consulate on his arrival at Tientsin.

On the 30th May, H.E. the Viceroy gave a breakfast to 24 guests—12 foreigners and 12 Chinese—the former being General Grant, Colonel Grant, Commodore Young, Captain Johnson (*Ashuelot*), Messrs. Denny, U.S. Consul; Dillon, French Consul; Forbes, Belgian Consul; Forrest, British Consul; Padevin, in charge of Russian Consulate; Möllendorff, in charge of German Consulate; Pethick, U.S. Vice-Consul and Interpreter; and G. Detring, Commissioner of Customs; all of whom are said by our correspondent to have "had a good time." They were conveyed to the Viceroy's Yamén in H.E.'s steam-launch.

To the dinner given on the evening of the 29th May, by Mr. Dillon, the French Consul, the Viceroy arrived sharp at 7.30, accompanied by the Customs Taotai, Hsü, and H.E.'s private Secretary. General Grant and the Viceroy took seats in the drawing room of the Consulate, the General on the Viceroy's right hand; and as the guests arrived they were severally introduced to them, the ladies first. These included Mrs. Grant, Madame Dillon, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Holcombe, Mrs. Forrest, Mrs. Detring, Miss Dorrien, and Miss Denny. These introductions over, the ladies took their seats in the drawing-room, and the gentlemen were presented. These were Colonel Grant, Commodore Young, Captain Johnson, Captain Rickman, H.M.S. *Frolic*; and Messrs. Dillon, Forrest, Denny, Möllendorff, Padevin, Forbes, Detring,

Pethick, Hague and Hill. It should be mentioned that the guests were afterwards also introduced to the Customs Taotai and to Hsü Taotai.

At table, Mrs. Forrest gracefully performed the duties of hostess, the ladies sitting side by side, Mrs. Grant being placed opposite H.E. the Viceroy and Mrs. Forrest opposite General Grant.

The dinner was a very pleasant one, the Viceroy being extremely sociable and chatty, often speaking to Mrs. Grant. He took wine with the ladies, and was truly gallant. At the conclusion of the dinner, all adjourned to the terrace, and the Viceroy and General Grant had a lengthy conversation and quiet smoke, sitting cosily together. Presently the compound became filled with members of the community, Chinese officials and their retinues, &c., and there was a splendid display of fireworks, with feats of jugglers, &c. The Viceroy and General Grant retired about 11.30, the Ladies and Consuls at 12; but many others remained until one or two a.m. It was a night to be remembered, and long will be, in the Settlement.

This is the first instance on record in which the Viceroy has met and been introduced to foreign ladies in public.

On the following day, the 30th, as above-stated, the Viceroy sent invitations to the official guests whom he had met on the previous evening, to a banquet at the Memorial Temple of Tseng Kuo-fan, on the South bank of the Peiho, near the vice-regal Yamén. This temple is the largest and finest in Tientsin, and last year was put in thorough repair at great expense. On the arrival of the General and party, the distance up the river being three miles, they landed and passed through the ranks of a guard of honour, which lined the road and presented arms. The guests were received at the main entrance by the Customs Taotai and other Chinese officials, the Viceroy himself paying them similar honours at the inner entrance. The banquet was given in the theatre of the temple, which was appropriately and tastefully arranged for the occasion. The table was spread in the centre, the service and decorations, as likewise the dinner itself, being in foreign style. Chinese dishes were occasionally introduced, but not so frequently as to disturb the arrangements of the table.

The Viceroy proposed General Grant's health in a fitting speech, which he had written in Chinese.

Mr. G. DETRING read the English translation to the company, as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—It has given me great pleasure to welcome you as my guests to-day, more especially as you aid me in shewing honour to the distinguished man who is now with us. General Grant's eminent talents as a soldier and statesman, and his popularity while Chief Ruler of a great country, are known to us all. I think it may be said of him now, as it was said of Washington a century ago, that he is "first in peace, first in war, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." His fame and the admiration and respect it excites is not confined to his own country, as the events of

his present tour round the world will prove, and China should not be thought unwilling to welcome such a visitor. I thank the General for the honour he has conferred upon me. I thank you all, Gentlemen, for the pleasure you have given me to-day,—and I now ask you to join me in drinking General Grant's health and wishing him increasing fame and prosperity.

General GRANT replied in the following words:—Your Excellency and Gentlemen,—I am very much obliged to you for the welcome I have received in Tientsin, which is only a repetition of the kindness that has been shown to me by the representatives of all nations since I came within the coasts of China. I am grateful to the Viceroy for the especial consideration which I have received at his hands. His history as a soldier and a statesman of the Chinese Empire has been known to me—as it is known to all at Home who have followed Chinese affairs for a quarter of a century, and I am glad to meet one who has rendered such great services to his country. My visit to China has been full of interest. I have learned a great deal of the civilization, the manners, the achievements and the industry of China that I had never known before. My visit to China has increased my estimate of the civilization and the character of the Chinese people, and I shall leave the country with increased feelings of friendship towards them, and a desire that they may be brought into relations of the closest commercial alliance and intercourse with the other nations. I trust that the Viceroy will sometime find it in his power to visit my country, when I shall be proud to return as far as I can the hospitality he has shown me. Again returning to you all—to the Viceroy whose guests we are, and to you who represent here the nations of Europe—my thanks for your courtesy, I ask you to join with me in a toast to the prosperity of China and the health of the Viceroy.

Both toasts were drunk standing.

At the conclusion of the banquet, the whole party assembled in a group, and were photographed, the General and the Viceroy sitting in the centre, with the foreign guests standing on the General's side and the Chinese on the Viceroy's side. The latter intends presenting each of his guests with a copy of the photograph.

At four p.m., General Grant and the other foreign guests retired, after thanking the Viceroy warmly for his most agreeable entertainment, the party returning in the Viceroy's launches.

The reception and subsequent festivities at Tientsin were certainly brilliant, and everything so far terminated happily.

At one p.m., on the 31st May, the party left Tientsin for Peking. The General, Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Holcombe, took passage in a large mandarin boat, the remainder of the party being accommodated in a number of smaller boats.

Our correspondent concludes by saying that from Tung-chow he will send us a continuation of the narrative of the General's progress through the bends of the Peiho river, &c.

## Editorial Selections.

## THE I.M.C. RETURNS OF TRADE.

It is always pleasant to afford praise where praise is due, and we may therefore draw attention to the very creditable celerity with which the "Returns of Trade for the year 1878" have been issued by the Statistical Department of the Imperial Maritime Customs. Considering the amount of detail which appears in Part II, containing the Statistics of the Trade at each port, we believe that the department may boast of supplying information quicker than any other Government; and as statistics are of value exactly in proportion to their lateness and general trustworthy description, we may congratulate the mercantile community, as well as the Statistical Department, on the publication of detailed returns of the last year's business so early as the month of May. As that month is really coincident with the commencement of the new season's operations in the principal staples of trade, it is of peculiar importance that the information should be forthcoming in time to enable operators to form an opinion on the results of the last season's changes, as well as to place them in a position to arrive at the probable requirements of the coming year. We have in reviewing the condensed tables drawn attention to the more salient points suggested by the returns for 1878. The result is on the whole, taking into consideration the many unfavourable influences at work, fairly satisfactory. Still the statistics tell many tales of depression, which we imagine are only partially to be traced to natural causes. Thus we find the trade of Shanghai dwindling from 124 millions of taels in 1876 to 111 millions in 1878, and though it is true that the former was a year of inflation, this does not represent the full measure of the decline. The decline of nine millions in the export to foreign countries is in great measure to be attributed to fluctuations in silk, but the same cause will not account for the diminished trade in articles of native consumption, which afford a fairer idea of the condition of the port than the foreign exports, which are liable to considerable fluctuations owing to remote causes in Europe and America. The principal change of importance to be noted in the peculiarly foreign trade of this port is a revival of the import trade from the United States, the value nearly doubling within the year. The amounts were respectively, Taels 1,137,000 in 1877 and Taels 2,250,000 in 1878. Even the latter amount represented but 4½ per cent. of the total foreign imports. The imports from Great Britain on the other hand diminished by no less than five millions. A portion of this is to be attributed to a fall in the valuation of the goods, and in part

to diminution of demand owing to the famine in the North and West. Still it is well to remember that in a healthy trade the power of laying down goods at a lower rate should stimulate the import, so that we really have here to face a serious diminution in demand. Part of this diminution there is no doubt is owing to restrictions placed on the free circulation of foreign goods, but more to the prohibitory tariffs on the movement of native productions, which prevent native cultivators from turning their surplus crops into sycee or taking them to export markets to be exchanged for foreign imports. A part is also to be explained by the deterioration in the quality of the goods imported. The mainspring of the adulterations practised of late years in Manchester has, however, been the practice of the Chinese, who, as purchasers, deliberately preferred cheapness to quality, and who eagerly bought sized and weighted stuffs while cloths of good quality were unsaleable in the market. It is difficult for manufacturers to refuse a demand for inferior articles in the face of the preference for them shown by Chinese dealers; still it is unfortunate that the demand was so readily met that Manchester goods have certainly to a considerable extent lost character amongst consumers.

In other articles considerable fluctuations occurred. The export of tea to Great Britain fell from 412 millions to 246 millions of pounds, although this was in a measure balanced by larger exports from Hankow direct. Tea may still be considered as the most unsatisfactory staple of export. The quality of Chinese made teas, under the false impetus given to the preparation of the article by the hurry to export at the beginning of the season, has been gradually deteriorating; while on the other hand the foreign opposition, especially from Assam, has been increasing. It seems likely that at no distant date the Russian market alone will remain to be supplied from Hankow. Caution has never been a characteristic of tea buyers, and the export practically does not cease till disastrous telegrams of the result of the first hasty purchases arrive at Shanghai. There are doubtless many articles of Chinese production suitable for export to take the place of tea, but hitherto the extraordinary fiscal irregularities of the Chinese authorities have for the most part rendered their export unprofitable.

The only articles of export exceeding a million taels in value, except tea and silk, were cotton, rice, sugar and wheat. Cotton showed a slight decrease; rice remained steady; wheat exhibited a slight increase, and sugar nearly doubled.

## GERMAN SOCIALISM IN AMERICA.

THE April issue of the *North American Review* contains a paper which cannot be read without very serious thought,

and which contains grounds for anxious if not gloomy apprehension. It is worthy of notice that the article is the only anonymous one in the number, a fact which indicates the extreme unpopularity of the views brought forward, and the personal risk that the writer feels attends the publication of opinions on a subject which is marked in the popular mind with the word "dangerous" writ large. The topic is as delicate as it is difficult, for the action of no less a personage than Prince Bismarck is freely commented on, and the hostility of a large and well disciplined organization is fearlessly provoked. A danger to the Republic is pointed at which it requires a brave man to face, for the writer's theme is the spread of German Socialism in America. A saying of Mr. Seward, whose fault as a public man was certainly not lack of courage, is quoted. That far sighted statesman is reported to have declared that of all the elements which entered into the national composition of the United States, the German was the element which he most feared. This remark is commented on by our essayist in terms which we place in juxtaposition with the opinion on the Germans as Australian colonists, which appears in the *Times* of the same date as the *Review* :—

*American Review*,  
April, 1879.

*The Times*,  
April, 1879.

"The discontented and revolutionary spirit which characterizes the German mind, coupled with the little learning, which every citizen of the Fatherland brings with him, and the clannishness of his race, seemed to Mr. Seward a danger menacing to the existing order of things."

If we consider the quotation from the American writer to represent public opinion in the States with any fairness, we need not be surprised that Prince Bismarck's recent legislation, which resulted in sending thousands, not only of Germans but of German Socialists to America, excites very considerable uneasiness, and in some minds positive alarm. Of the two million Germans who are deprived of their constitutional rights, a vast number have emigrated to America, and many of these emigrants are impregnated with the doctrines of Lassalle and Karl Marx. The Socialists have held two national Conventions, one at Philadelphia in 1876, "the year preceding the great railway strikes," and one at Newark, New Jersey, in 1877, "the year of the great labour strikes. In the former of these assemblies, three-fourths of the delegates present bore German names. In the second gathering one-half of the representatives were German, and the elected Chairman as well as two-thirds of the committees chosen could boast a German origin. The laws formulated by the labour

party, as the Socialists are named, involve as may be guessed changes that have been advocated over and over again. Eight hours is to be the legal working day. All conditions of labour, means of subsistence and dwelling included, are to be liable to sanitary inspection. Children under fourteen are not to be employed in industrial establishments. The compulsory education of all children under the same age is to be insisted on. Justice is to be administered gratuitously in all Courts of Law. The importation of coolies under contract must be immediately prohibited, and those now in America under similar obligations are to be released from the same, etc., etc. These are the more prominent points insisted on by the Socialists, and the platform excites, as we have said, very great alarm. It is described as "the menacing confederation which honeycombs the Union from sea to sea." A phrase which echoes and confirms the much ridiculed prediction of Lord Beaconsfield, with regard to the Secret Societies in Europe.

The mistake made in the article is that the words German and Socialist are almost unconsciously identified by the writer. It is no doubt inconvenient for ultra-liberal doctrines to be promulgated, but we see every reason why persons holding such doctrines should seek the great Western Republic where they may have free course and be glorified. When Socialist organizations are formed in any of the old aristocratic Kingdoms of Europe, they are felt to be out of place. When the Christian Church is proved to have the traces of Socialistic institutions in it surprise ensues "miraturque novas frondes et non sua poma." But surely if such institutions are to be tried at all they must have the best chance in the land of freedom and plenty, the home of the oppressed and the asylum of the outcast, where Coleridge would have planted his Utopian Pantisocracy and where the dignity of labour and the long pedigree of toil are everywhere recognized and esteemed. We object also to the sneer at the "little learning" of Germans, and it is rather unjust to mention the characteristics of the Fatherland in the same breath with the peculiarities of Turkish barbarism. The whole article, however, should be carefully read.

#### GREAT BRITAIN AND AFGHANISTAN.

THE announcement that peace had been ratified between Great Britain and the new Ameer of Afghanistan is one that will have been heard with satisfaction in all quarters, and is the best defence of the action of the British Government in taking prompt measures to put an end to a state of affairs which would certainly not have ended with the disaffection of Afghanistan. It was indeed evident that, with the exception of a few dangerous enthusiasts, the opposition to the action of the Government

was really got up on party grounds, but it says little for the patriotism of the Liberal party that they were willing, simply for the sake of seeing themselves in power, to effect a public demonstration of principles which they knew and felt to be contrary to the best interests of the nation. The strife between classes in England got up some sixty years ago has been steadily fanned by two generations of would-be statesmen since; so that, in the words of Macaulay, Englishman is to Englishman "more hateful than a foe," and the best interests of the nation are complacently strangled in the internecine contests of party. The struggle in Afghanistan was not for territory nor even for a frontier capable of scientific defence, and the objects of the war may be as readily attained by attaching the interests of the State to our own as by extending our outposts. In the possession of the Khyber and Bolan Passes, we hold a security against any sudden inroad into our Indian territory and the opportunity, should we find the necessity of so doing, of converting a defensive into an offensive campaign. If the Government has succeeded in doing this without offending the pride or prejudices of our Afghan neighbours, it deserves well of the country; and this the more so that the conduct of the war has been marked by an anxious desire to spare life, and with the exception of the sad accident to the 10th Hussars has been carried on with careful deliberation and an almost entire absence of military blunders. The event has proved in every way the wisdom of beginning a struggle with sufficient force to render opposition useless, and so to avoid the useless loss of life on both sides which has marked the half-hearted and ill-planned operations in Zululand. It is a pleasant termination of a campaign that no avoidable injuries remain to be revenged on either side, that towns have not been destroyed nor populations sacrificed, and that beyond the probability of more frequent communications between the countries, the visitor will be unable in a few months to discover anything of what, badly managed, would have proved for both sides a disastrous war. It is well said by Gibbon of the wars of the Emperor Justinian, that his victories equally with his reverses hastened on the final ruin of the Roman Empire, and that the result of both was equally the exhaustion and depopulation of the territories. The Afghan campaign of 1878 has by its good management been spared this reproach, while it has undoubtedly tended to the re-establishment of pleasant relations along the frontier. The lesson of the war is, however, one that is in danger of being forgotten, and that is the extreme impolicy of allowing barriers to be made of frontier States against ourselves. It was unwillingness to adopt any definite course of action, and the continual dread of

responsibility arising from the keeping open of regular communication with Cabul, which finally drove Shere Ali into the arms of Russia; and it needed the trial of the late campaign to show how utterly unreliable were the threats and promises held out by the latter.

Now, east of Afghanistan we observe signs of a similar desire to more effectually close the frontier to intercourse. The *Peking Gazette* of the 8th April, contains a memorial from the Viceroy of Szechuen regarding the arrival of a fresh Envoy from Nepal. The Envoy, we are told, beat his head on the ground with exclamations of joy at the treatment he had received, and presented a petition from his master, the style of which contrasts curiously with what the Indian Government is in the habit of receiving, "A dweller in a remote corner of the earth, in a distant and barren land, the King turns with longing towards the civilisation of (China.) It has been his practice to gain glory to himself by the despatch of an Envoy, who was admitted to the Presence, and he has been entirely dependent upon the rays of His august Majesty's awe-inspiring influence and prosperity for securing peace and tranquillity on his borders." Although the greater part of the fulsome phrases in the "petition" are doubtless to be put down to the humour of the Chinese scribe employed to put it in Celestial characters, there still remains the fact that while the King of Nepal is permitted to keep his frontier closed to British India, he seeks to cultivate relations with the Chinese Government. Now that the latter has become practically our frontier from the Kara-Korum Pass to Burma, to foster this state of insulation is little better than political suicide. The results of encouraging it in Afghanistan have been a narrow escape of embroilment with Russia, and its effects from the East are sure before long to be not dissimilar. Indeed, in Burma we have already a forecast of its impolicy. It is probable that the measures taken by the Government in British Burma may ward off for the moment the coming disturbance; but the elements of danger are still there, and will continue so long as we leave the frontier States open to intrigue from the rear, while we permit in front an impassable barrier to be placed between us.

#### REVIEW.

*China Review*, March-April, 1879.

The present number is in most respects fairly up to the standard to which the *China Review* has attained of late years as the organ of the sinologists, and affords a good example of the merits as well as the defects of that somewhat restricted class. The merits may be summed up in the statement that the greater number are hard-working students conscientiously pursuing their labours in what to them must seem a very barren field; their shortcomings may



be equally briefly stated by saying that their devotion to Chinese has mostly been accompanied by a want of knowledge of those cognate studies which would render their researches really useful in the science of comparative philology, of ethnology, and of ancient history and geography. This weakness displays itself in the opening sentence of the number, where in the middle of a valuable dissertation on Legislation and Law in Ancient China we are told that, "Although there existed in ancient times no general code of law, but only individual enactments, provision was yet made that those, whether relating to the whole of the people or to special classes of society, were properly promulgated." Such a sentence might have been penned in the time of Bentham, but the study of comparative jurisprudence has made considerable strides since his days, and we find our best modern authority, Sir Henry Maine, stating that "it is certain that in the infancy of mankind no sort of legislation, nor even a distinct author of law, is contemplated or conceived of." We may go further, and say that legislation in the modern sense has as yet no existence for the majority of the human race, and that the machinery for making and promulgating laws has as yet scarcely any being out of Europe. "Legislation," states the authority quoted above, "the enactments of a legislature, which, whether it take the form of an autocratic prince or of a parliamentary assembly, is the assumed organ of the entire society, is the last of the ameliorating instrumentalities." When we find works purporting to be ancient describing a condition under which legislation was a paramount function of a State, we are, according to the consensus of modern critical opinion, treading on dangerous ground, and it behoves us to examine closely the external proofs of their genuineness. It is thus that the so-called Laws of Manu have been relegated from a fabulous antiquity to a comparatively modern period, and it is thus that we find them described as, in point of the relative progress of Hindoo jurisprudence, of recent production. The Chinese scholar who now-a-days accepts such a book as the Shüking as authoritative on dates extending back to twenty centuries before the Christian era, is on the same footing as were Orientalists of sixty years ago, who were ready to accept as trustworthy the Brahminical stories regarding the antiquity of their legislator. We therefore hesitate in accepting as of value towards the study of comparative law the ideas of a writer who quotes as an authority the statements of the Shüking with regard to the "Emperor" Shun; and recommend him, before essaying the task of forming a historical sketch of Legislation in Ancient China, to study carefully the external and internal evidences of the high antiquity professed for the Chinese Classics.

In a lesser degree the same remarks may apply to the second paper, "Jottings from the Book of Rites." That the Liki contains many old fragments and throws satisfactory light on many ancient rites and customs of the Chinese, we are not disposed to

controvert; but we may add that the external evidence of its genuineness is defective, and that the internal evidence points to a period many centuries later than the Chinese would have us believe. Of it we may say what has by Sir Henry Maine been said, with the alteration of the word Brahmins, of the Manu, that "it is, in great part, an ideal picture of that which, in the view of the (Chinese literati) ought to be law."

A practical paper on the Running Hand of the Chinese, by the Revd. Mr. Chalmers, will be useful to many students of the language, and would be still more useful did our mercantile establishments care to encourage the study of Chinese amongst their employés.—The Critical Disquisitions of Wang Ch'ung are as uninteresting as ever.—We make no remarks on the translation of the Li-sao, because we have not yet commenced the study of that curious poem, and do not desire to be indebted to the author for our facts.—Mr. Bourne gives an amended list of high Chinese officials, corrected to date and very valuable for reference, not only to students but to all interested in the present condition of the Empire.

Following is a paper professing to be a review of Mr. Kingsmill's Notes on the Shi-king:—The writer naively confesses his qualifications for the task. First, till within a year he had never seen a copy of the work; secondly, he is quite unable to say what effect the use of Chinese characters have had on neighbouring languages, as Japanese; thirdly, he knows very little of philology in its critical sense, nothing of mythology, and never heard of Varuna, &c.; fourthly, he never entered into an enquiry as to the date when writing was first discovered in China, and has personally no information on the subject; fifthly, he is quite content with the "solid and unseasoned meat" furnished for him by Dr. Legge. The would-be reviewer is thus in great measure dependent on the author for his facts; what his opinions are worth may be judged from a single specimen. He asks, are we to reject the evidence of a ripe scholar and philosopher like Chühi, who had the "advantage" of living 700 years nearer the date of the Shi-king than the author? We may translate this into plain English. Geoffrey of Monmouth was a ripe scholar and philosopher, who had the advantage of living seven hundred years nearer the time of Julius Cæsar than, say, E. A. Freeman. Would our reviewer ask us to gulp Geoffrey's stories of the lives of British kings from the siege of Troy in preference to the critical judgment of the modern historian? V.W.X. we have no doubt is a first-class Chinese scholar, as he modestly hints himself to be; but until he has studied the subjects of which he confesses ignorance, and a good deal more besides, he is not in a position to enter the field of comparative philology as a judge of the opinions of others.

An improvement in the tone of the short notices of new books, which conclude the number, may be noted, as also an advance in the style of editing. We have been able to peruse whole pages without the necessity of pausing to consider what the author could have written.

## Outports.

### PEKING.

At last it appears that something will be done for the reception of General Grant at the Chinese capital, if not in a pompous way, at least with kind words. At the invitation of the Rev. Dr. Martin, a meeting of the American residents in Peking took place this evening at the residence of Rev. Dr. Blodget, for the purpose of discussing the question. The Chairman and Secretary for the occasion were the Rev. Mr. Pike and Rev. Mr. Roberts, and after a short discussion it was agreed that an address of welcome should be presented to the illustrious visitor.

The Revs. Drs. Martin and Blodget were elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman of a Committee for preparing the address, which will be presented by the American residents en masse to General Grant at a fixed time and place, probably at the United States Legation.

The compound of the American Legation has been converted into a floral Eden by the efforts and exquisite taste of H.E. Dr. Elmore, the Peruvian Minister. Nothing will be spared for welcoming General Grant, so far as the few Americans are concerned. It is said that the Chinese officials will vie with the Americans in this affair, and will send chairs as far as Tung-chow, with countless coolies, for carrying the General and his suite to Peking, and will keep the chairs as well as an escort of two hundred soldiers at the General's disposal during his stay at the capital.

Mr. Robert Hart arrived three days ago, in company with his family.

Mr. Chester Holcombe, the American Chargé d'Affaires, will be back again to his post of duty to-morrow evening, after an absence of seventy-two days.

A College will be shortly opened in Peking for the training of young diplomats, and it is understood that it will be under the able direction of a former professor in the Tungwén College and a young enterprising diplomat, who arrived in Peking from Southern Asia about eight months ago. 29th May.

### TIENTSIN.

I returned, writes our correspondent, last Saturday (31st), from my trip, and was sorry not having been here to witness the arrival of General Grant, and send you a full account of the doings. One of my friends did so, however, quite as acceptably, I trust, as I could have done it. I passed the party in boats (two in a cart), about 15 miles from Tientsin last Saturday. First came a large mandarin junk—as large a one as could ascend to Tung-chow—towed by the Viceroy's small launch. It was quite inspiring to see steam so far from Tientsin towards the capital. We hope the shades of Fêng-shui will not be disturbed thereby. The large boat was followed by several house-boats, such as those ordinarily used by travellers to and from Peking. These again by some three or four of H.E.'s small river gunboats. All these small boats were "tracking." Altogether it presented quite a novel scene—place, time and circumstances being taken into consideration. I wonder how the General will be received in Peking.

There always comes a lull after a storm, which is sometimes restful, sometimes almost as oppressive as the close, heavy, motionless atmosphere which precedes and prepares for the elemental strife. Such seems to be the calm that has fallen upon our usually quiet place since the departure of our distinguished visitor, who passed on to the "Celestial" capital last Saturday. To some the calm is restful, while others, I fancy, were so overcome by the preparation, anticipation and actual participation in the whirl of excitements which filled up day-work and night-dreams during the few

preceding days, that the quiet is almost unrestful. There is a sense of weariness through the tired body, like the moaning of the winds in the forest and creaking of the trees as they rub against each other after the storm has passed, and before the normal state has been fully restored. Yet storms do good, and so our lassitude needs sometimes to be shaken up, and dissipated, and the life-blood sent racing all through the system, lest we die of ennui.

Of late there have been hot, parching winds from the South-west, with much dust. Almost no rain has fallen in any part of the province, and the result is that the ground is very dry. A journey was recently made by one of the missionary gentlemen here, extending to a distance of 600 li to the S.W. and returning via Paoting-fu, traversing a circuit of about 1,300 li. In a few spots here and there he found the wheat looking fairly well; but generally, except where wells have been dug and irrigation has come to the rescue, the wheat crop is already "spoiled" (壞了).

It is making small ears on a stalk only 8 or 10 inches high. In some sections large fields of grain are irrigated; these look well, and the contrast shows what the ground is capable of yielding with a good supply of water. Tall waving stalks bending under the weight of heavy ears well repays the extra labor, and is refreshing to behold. Generally, the autumn crops—kaoliang, beans, cotton, &c., are through the ground and ready for the first hoeing, but are greatly in need of a plentiful supply of growing showers.

In the Ho-chien-fu department, where relief was given last year, many of the villagers say that half, or more than half, their former population is gone. Many went away and have never returned, but the majority perished from starvation or the pestilence which followed. From various sources, rumors reach us that the outlook is far from encouraging.

It is said that the Government will not permit the extension of the Tientsin and Taku telegraph line to Paoting-fu, as the Viceroy proposed.

3rd June.

#### CHEFOO.

Our correspondent writes respecting this interesting watering place—Signs of the close proximity of Summer are rapidly accumulating around us. We have passed through the usual rotation of southerly winds, small dust, rain, thunder-storms, fogs, &c., and seem now to have got into "set fair" weather. So far, it has been very favorable to the crops, all of which in this neighbourhood hold out prospects of abundance of corn and fruit. It is too early yet to speculate on the probable outcome of that, to the shipping interests of Chefoo, all important item, Peas and the "Bean-cakes" made therefrom. Millet and Kao Leang are also quite young yet.

Arrangements for bathing on a grand scale are being completed, and already some people have been noticed with saline aspect and briny locks.

The visitors who generally come, not "with but after" the swallows, also indicate warm weather in the south. We have observed about half a dozen here already.

Meetings, for a variety of purposes, have been held, and at one it was resolved that Races are to be had here in the Autumn. A committee, &c., were elected and the Race days have been fixed for Monday and Tuesday, the 22nd and 23rd September. We lost two similar days' recreation last year owing to a want of "noble sportsmen," but now the interest is very keen, and it is expected that somewhat under a hundred ponies will be brought into the field. If our Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, and other friends' promises do not partake too much of the nature of "piecrust," we

expect some ponies from those places, and may on the whole anticipate fair sport.

It is rumoured that the Road Committee have been at work again and brought forth a gigantic lottery scheme, but the prospectus has not yet been issued.

The *Benchutha* and *Forget-me-not* still adorn the harbour, and seem to be waiting for the other lame duck, the *Condor*, which is expected to be brought in soon.

The *Ada* is still on the forty li beach, but looks remarkably well considering how long she has been there and the distance she has travelled towards the interior since she first tried an overland route.

#### WUHU.

A correspondent (whose letter appears to have been delayed) sends us the following graphic account of the detention and release of the *Loudoun Castle*, which, however, will probably still possess some interest:—The *Loudoun Castle* passed Wuhu on Wednesday, the 4th inst., at 5.30, going apparently very fast and easily, after a week's detention. She presented a most remarkable appearance when ashore, with her bow run high and dry right on to the bank, one-third of her length being on shore. The officers stated that when she grounded, going nearly 17 knots, no shock was experienced, her sharp bow cutting into the mud of the reed-covered bank as though it were so much butter or cheese. Coolies were employed to make a coffer dam and clear the mud from one side, and on the other side large clumsy iron native rakes were used in the water, also to remove the mud. The primitive agricultural implements of the Chinese made this very slow work, and on Sunday, when the *Hankow* arrived, tugging was found useless. The wheels of the *Hankow* were, however, kept moving to clear away the mud, some 12,000 chests of tea were transhipped into the river steamer, and on Tuesday, at one p.m., on being hauled at by the *Hankow*, the *Loudoun Castle* moved half a foot, then a little more, and finally glided as quietly into the water as if she were being launched. Assistance was freely rendered by the Customs and Consulate at Wuhu, and a Chinese gunboat sent by the local officials to keep the coolies, who were inclined to be troublesome at 500 cash a day (!), in order, was extremely useful in expediting the work.

#### CHINKIANG.

Although the Swatow Guild have not done anything at present towards the breaking up of their conspiracy against the foreigners engaged in business at this port, still there are rumours afloat that they are beginning to quake with fear from the anticipated interference of Sir Thomas Wade. His late vigorous action against the Foochow authorities is already commencing to bear the desired influence on the native mind, and it is most satisfactory to hear those natives engaged in trade applauding his political energy and asserting with the utmost confidence that we and they are now on the eve of securing a better future.

Owing to the hostile spirit of the Mandarin towards foreigners, not only at this port, but at Wuhu, more especially during the past six months, some interference to procure for us the observance of our Treaty obligations is imperatively needed. Some definite resolve to place us on a proper footing is absolutely required, otherwise it is feared that not only will foreigners not be able to hold their own in business, but that foreign imports will be seriously lessened owing to designs put in practice for the increase of *tekin* and other profitable emoluments, conjointly collected for the benefit of the Trade Unions or Guilds. From these causes it is said that the falling off in

Opium alone at this port for the last quarter was about 500 chests. The system of corporate associations of this kind has always been acknowledged to be a curse both to natives and foreigners alike in this country. In earlier days it required a British army and navy to disperse them, and it will do so again unless diplomatic influence nips it in the bud.

4th June.

#### WENCHOW.

The disaster to the *Yungning*, says our correspondent, caused a great deal of consternation amongst the shippers, especially those teams who had hoped to get their leaf on the Shanghai market before either Hankow or Foochow opened. By shipping via Wenchow it will always be possible to get tea down at least a fortnight before the earliest could reach Foochow; and this fact, it is hoped, will eventually prove an additional attraction to our port.

When the first news of the fatal ending of the *Yungning's* "blow-up" reached us, it was feared that a marked effect would be visible on the native passenger lists of the future; but the fact of the engines being now put in charge of a foreigner has gone far to restore confidence, and as long as the engineer is retained on board all will probably go well.

It certainly seems "penny wise and pound foolish" to trust the machinery to men who at best can only be persons who have proved themselves special adepts at shovelling coals or lubricating bearings; and that this confidence is misplaced, surely the fact of its being palpable to the Chinese themselves is tolerably good evidence.

If rumour speaks truly, another steamer is suffering from the want of that foreign supervision which as far as machinery is concerned seems so essential to the general welfare. However, as the evil is remedied in our direction, we have no reason to be solicitous about others.

The Custom House was the scene of some most unusual and lively transactions to-day, as the tea was being examined. The Chinese have not got into the routine as yet, and this leads to more bustle than will probably exist later on.

In consequence of the rain, the steamer's departure had to be postponed and the shipment, examination, &c., concentrated in the few hours of fine weather fortunately available.

The *Yungning* takes away about 1,200 chests and there are about 500 or 600 to follow on the lorcha. More is expected to arrive for the steamer on her next trip, and if that now sent turns out well, I fancy the shipments will be more continuous than is perhaps expected at present.

Things certainly look brighter for the place, and there can be no doubt but that much if not all of this improvement is due to the steps taken by the C.M.S.N. Co. Let us hope they will continue to persevere and prosper in, for them, so good a work.

*A propos* of these good wishes, why are the Company so mild and conciliatory towards natives and yet so awfully hard and exacting towards foreigners? Freights charged to the latter are tremendously high. To give an instance, the other day a member of the community got down six ordinary chairs, value, say, about \$7.50, and they were charged upwards of \$5 freight. I may remark that not being the victim alluded to, no personal soreness prompts reference to the matter. Again, the passage money is surely out of all proportion to the services rendered and the rates demanded from Chinese.

Notwithstanding all this growl, however, and the cause for grumbling, foreigners here, one and all, wish well to the Company, and would be only too glad to do all that in them lies to further the views of those who, alone and unaided, have so

effectively come forward to help our port in her struggles to obtain that position which must be hers some day.

30th May.

#### FOOCHOW.

Our correspondent, writing on the 31st ult., gives the text of the agreement mentioned in the *Herald* summary, as having been come to by the Tea-buyers; and then goes on to say that about 180,000 chests of new season teas have arrived. The quality is disappointing, owing to want of rain in the Spring. Up to the present date there are eight tea steamers in port, but the rate of freight is not yet fixed. I am almost certain, he adds, that the Foochow market will be opened about the middle of next (the current) week. The *Glencagles* will get off first, I think. The *Agamemnon* and *Tahyew* arrived to-day.

The *Foochow Herald* says the annual general meeting of the Foochow Chamber of Commerce was held on the 23rd ult., at the offices of Messrs. Odell & Leyburn. The following firms were represented, viz:—Messrs. Purdon & Co., Gilman & Co., George Oliver & Co., Gibb, Livingston & Co., Adamson, Bell & Co., Bathgate & Co., Hedge & Co., Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, Russell & Co., Odell & Leyburn, David Sassoon, Sons & Co., Siemssen & Co., Jardine, Matheson & Co., and Birley & Co. Mr. Odell occupied the chair. Minutes of the last general meeting, and of two special general meetings, having been read and confirmed; the annual report was taken as read, and it was moved by Mr. Tennant, seconded by Mr. Oliver, that it be adopted. This resolution was carried unanimously. The balance sheet for 1878-9, showing a sum of \$687.45 to credit of the Chamber on the 21st ult., was then presented. Mr. Ezekiel, seconded by Mr. W. H. Harton, proposed that the statement of accounts be passed, which was done accordingly, without dissent. The election of a Committee to serve in the ensuing year was then proceeded with by ballot, and resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen, viz:—Messrs. Odell, Sheppard, H. R. Smith, and Lübkes. There being no more business before the meeting, a vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

A short time ago, a large native tea-house at Long-kau, in the Shansien district, above Yenping, took fire. The proprietor, fearing that his property would be looted, locked up the premises. The inmates, including many women and children, engaged in picking tea, were thus unable to escape as the fire progressed, and about 130 persons were, we regret to learn, burned to death. The proprietor has been arrested by the mandarins and is to be tried for arson.

The Min Magistrate arrested eight men belonging to the Shang-kau district a few days ago. The prisoners are charged with being makers of spurious cash coin. The law of China deals very severely with this crime, and nothing will save these men from decapitation short of a liberal use of palm oil. This spurious cash is usually sold to bankers and shopkeepers, by whom it is mixed with strings of good cash.

H.M.'s gunvessel *Midge*, Commander Salmond, arrived at Pagoda Anchorage on the 26th ult., with a quantity of old stores from the Naval Yard at Shanghai. She left for Hongkong on the 28th ult.

In its commercial summary of the 29th ult., the *Herald* says:—*Tea*.—Arrivals of new season's Congou are reported to the extent of about 172,000 chests; the bulk of leaf being from the Pelling, Pan-yong, Packlum, Kien-yong, and Suey-kut districts. The yield is, in point of quality, below the average, certain descriptions being even inferior to last season's low standard.

The following agreement has been entered into by the foreign hong, viz:—"We, the undersigned, hereby agree and bind our-

selves not to offer directly or indirectly for the new Teas before Monday, the 2nd June, 1879. We also agree not to ship teas on native account to London before the same date. Of course it is understood that this agreement to be binding must be general."

Total Arrivals:—Congou, 172,047 chests; Oolong, 302 ½-chests.

Vessels on the berth.—For London, steamships *Braemar Castle*, *Ben Gloe*, *Glencagles*, *Monarch*, *Syria*, *Merionetshire*, *Teviot*, and *Glensalloch*.

Vessels expected to load.—For London, steamship *Orestes*; for Melbourne, steamship *Brisbane*; for Sydney, steamship *Killarney*; and sailing-ship *Alexa*.

#### AMOY.

A correspondent of the *Foochow Herald* gives the following laconic, but forcible, description of the wreck of the Amoy Bund:—"More than half of the new bund has disappeared entirely. Bund house is in ruins, the Hongkong Bank premises also. The bank agent had to move about \$400,000 from the bank into Messrs. Elles & Co.'s place during Friday night. Where the bund was last week there are now 18 feet of water. All the ballast, &c., has disappeared, also the heavy stone wall. Goodness knows what has become of the debris,—it has simply vanished."

27th May.

The *Amoy Gazette* gives the following account of the accident to the Bund at that port on the 23rd ult.:—"We observe, with great regret, that a most serious accident has occurred to the new Bund in front of the British concession, which threatens, not only the whole of the structure itself, but also the buildings in its immediate vicinity. Last Thursday night a very high tide occurred, and next morning not only had that portion of the Bund-wall extending from Messrs. Wilson, Nicholls & Co.'s hong to the Bund-house subsided, but a very large portion of the backing had been washed away; and the fears which had been entertained of further damage were realized, for the above-named portion of the wall was found to have totally disappeared, the backing had all gone as far up as the old foreshore, and very seriously damage had resulted to the neighbouring buildings. The premises occupied by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation are in a ruinous condition, both the old and new portions having cracked and subsided in a most alarming manner, whilst the bund-house itself is so far gone that its fate may be said to be sealed. The subsidence is probably more serious than was at first anticipated, as Messrs. Moalle & Co.'s cargo-boats broke adrift last night from their moorings, shewing that the bed of the harbour has been seriously disturbed. Two stories are current among the Chinese of Amoy to account for the accident. One is that there is a great dragon below, which objects to the weight of masonry placed upon its back and has accordingly wriggled itself free; the other is that the building was started by the recent unusual saluting, on the occasion of General Grant's visit.

H.I.G.M.S. *Luise*, Commander Scheering, arrived on the 27th ult. from Hongkong. She will stay in port about a week and then proceed to Shanghai.

H.M. Consul Mr. Alabaster paid an official visit yesterday on board the Japanese corvette *Tsukuba*, Commander Matsumura, and was received with the usual salute. The corvette left next day for Japan.

The Queen's birthday was celebrated at Amoy by a Regatta, which is described as having been a highly successful affair. Fifty guests sat down to tidbit, of whom fifteen were ladies.

#### HONGKONG.

The *China Mail* says that H.E. the Governor, Mrs. Hennessy, and family left on the 30th ultimo for Yokohama by the O. & O. steamer *Belgie*, accompanied by the Japanese Consul, Mr. Taro Ando. His Excellency will be officially received at Yokohama by one of the members of the Japanese Government, whose guest he will then become. The arrangements for his trip from this time will be mainly in the hands of the Japanese authorities, who will no doubt duly honour him as the representative of Her Majesty. It is understood he will proceed to Tokio, where the house of one of the Ministers has been set apart for His Excellency's party. The Governor will probably return to Hongkong in six weeks. The trip is one taken purely on the grounds of His Excellency and family requiring a change.

The *Mail* says Masonic readers will regret to learn that Worshipful Brother T. G. Linstead, Grand Master of the Province, is compelled to leave the Colony for Japan, owing to ill-health. Dr. Adams, the Deputy Grand Master, to whom naturally the administration of affairs Masonic would have fallen during Mr. Linstead's absence, will also be leaving the Colony soon, proceeding to England. In these circumstances it became necessary to appoint for the time a Deputy Grand Master, who will have charge during the absence of the Grand Master; the Brethren are to be congratulated on the selection of a popular member of the Craft, Mr. C. P. Chater, to whom has been handed over the charge of the Province.

The *Mail* tells the following curious story:—"It was a matter of notoriety before the then Acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Snowden, went Home that the course of true official harmony between him and the Governor had been running anything but smoothly. So much so was this the case, that a statement of their unpleasant relations was sent Home, and Mr. Justice Snowden was ruled wrong on both the points which were stated by the official account laid before the Secretary of State to have led to the serious misunderstanding or estrangement then existing between the Head of the Executive and the acting Head of the Judiciary. One of the points on which they had differences was the escape from justice of Huffam, the other was the pardoning of a man (convicted of the Shek-o murder), on the ground that he had not been defended by a solicitor as well as a barrister. Mr. Justice Snowden remonstrated against the order to apologize, and sent home an account of the circumstances; he left for England not long ago, as our readers are aware, and will just about have reached England by this time; so that he has not had time to lay his case personally before the Secretary of State. We now learn that a despatch has been received by the mail just to hand, in which the Secretary of State gives his decision that Mr. Justice Snowden must apologize to the Governor for his action in the matter, and that Her Majesty's Secretary of State was surprised to learn that he had not already done so. This decision is certainly surprising to us, and will be equally surprising to those who have so long known and admired the amiability and invariably gentlemanly and courteous bearing of our absent Puisne Judge."

Dr. E. J. Eitel was on the 29th ult. entered on the rolls as a sworn interpreter of the Supreme Court and took the oaths.

In the Supreme Court, before Chief Justice Sir John Smale, on the 29th ult., Mr. Wotton made an application, on behalf of the Official Assignee, of the estate of W. von Pustau, a bankrupt, for a date to be fixed for a meeting to be held for the purpose of appointing a Creditors' Assignee. His Lordship said that he did not think that it was a matter for him; he was rather doubtful if a meeting would ever be held. After some conversation regarding the



difficulties in the way of doing anything further in the matter, Mr. Plunkett, the Official Assignee, stated that all the assets had been collected and were deposited in the Bank, bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent., and. His Lordship made an order confirming the disposal of the assets in this way for the present. He said the estate was wound up so far as collecting assets went, and the money was fructifying; he thought it would be best for all parties that no further steps should be taken in the matter, until something had been done regarding an Imperial Bankruptcy. He also made an order that the Official Assignee's costs should be taxed to date.

The late steward of the British barque *Strathmore*, who is charged with having set fire to the ship, has arrived at Hongkong as a prisoner from Iloilo, by the s.s. *Diamante*, on his way to England for trial.

The *Daily Press* confirms the rumour as to the recall of Yang Chung-ya, Governor of Kwang-si. It says there is no doubt about the matter, and adds that he is to be replaced by Chang Shu-sheng, a treasurer of some inland province. The ex-Governor is said to be ill, and will probably explain his removal on this ground. But it is really due in part to his mismanagement of the Annam frontier trouble, and in part to the obstinacy with which he has withstood his superior the Governor-General Liu Kuñ-yi in the matter of the Transit Pass Regulations approved by that high officer. This should be good news for Pakhoi, the trade of that port being entirely dependent upon the Kwang-si markets.

Early on the morning of the 30th ult., a fire was discovered on board the corvette *Modeste*. Smoke was seen issuing from the lining on the starboard side behind the boilers. The pumps being already rigged to clean the decks, no time was lost in playing water upon the spot from whence the smoke issued and the fire was quickly subdued. The cause of the fire is supposed to be from spontaneous combustion, as between the lining of the ship was found a quantity of cotton waste, which had apparently been burning for some hours, and must have been taken there by rats, as it was impossible for any one to get to the place in which the waste was found.

#### MACAO.

The Hongkong papers report that the Chinese revenue-cruiser *Shien Chi*, Captain Wade, made a successful attack upon a fleet of smuggling junks recently in the vicinity of Macao and effected several captures. The smugglers mustered fifteen sail, were all well armed, and fought with great desperation. They had cargoes of salt and saltpetre, and no doubt calculated that their strength of numbers would pull them through, but in this they were mistaken, for the majority had to crawl away in a crippled condition, seeking shelter in the creeks, the whole fleet being more or less disabled, whilst three junks were captured and taken to Canton. In these three junks were sixty prisoners, and it is reasonable to suppose that some escaped by swimming off to other junks, so that, taken at the lowest computation, there could have been no less than 300 desperadoes surrounding the cruiser at one time; and given that the junks only had one piece of ordnance each—whereas they frequently carry four or six—a lot of metal must have been brought to bear on the *Shien Chi*, and while the affair lasted she must have had a hot time of it. Instead of putting a prize crew on board, as was done on a recent occasion with such disastrous results, the captain wisely took the captured junks in tow and handed them over to the authorities at Canton.

#### NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* says the British barque *Lydia*, Captain Youngson, cleared for Kochinoetsu on Thursday last, having been

chartered by the Mitsui Busan Co. for six trips, to load coal at their mine at the above place, for Shanghai. The *Sun* believes it is the first instance of a foreign vessel loading coals at an unopen port on this island, and presumes the out-put from the mine must be on the increase. The Japanese steamer *Hideyoshi Maru* and barque *Cheyai Maru* have been engaged on this route for some time. Kochinoetsu is situated about thirty miles from Nagasaki.

Mr. Yamao, Vice-Minister of Public Works, and Mr. Otori, Director of Arsenals and of the Central School of Tokio, accompanied by Mons. Mouchet, Chief Engineer at Ikuno, arrived in Nagasaki on the 27th ult. They have come to make a general inspection of the mines in the South of Japan, and in addition to those of Kiushin, the following provinces will also be visited:—Mimasaka, Ogi, Idzumo, Iwami, Nagato and Suwo. On the 28th Messrs. Yamao and Otori left on a visit to Mike, whence they will return in a few days, and on the 29th Mr. Mouchet left in the *Thabor* to visit the gold and silver mines in the province of Satsuma.

H.M.S. *Iron Duke*, Captain Cleveland, has arrived from Shanghai, rather earlier than was anticipated, and will probably remain about a month. The French corvette *Champlain* is expected to arrive here early in June. The only war vessels in harbour are the *Iron Duke* and *Lepwing*.

31st May.

#### OSAKA.

The people of Osaka, says the *Hiogo News*, have come together, on the invitation of the Rev. Dr. Style, the President of the Asiatic Society of Japan, for the purpose of discussing the feasibility of establishing a kindred association at Osaka. The feeling that such a society ought to be established was pretty general amongst those present, and a resolution was finally come to, to confer with the Council in Tokio as to the establishment of a Branch of the Society in Osaka, or Osaka and Kobe. It was subsequently arranged that three gentlemen, Messrs. MacLagan, Penny and Koidzumi, should discuss the matter with Kobe friends, previous to the Committee's acting.

#### HIOGO.

The *News* says it is rumoured that General Grant will, after visiting Kobe and Osaka, proceed to Aichi Ken (Owari), in the *Kongo-kwanan*, and while there take a look at the Ise temples.—A cricket match on the Recreation Ground formed one of the principal festivities on the Queen's birthday. It was originally intended that the sides should be Residents' On the Concession v. Those Off, but it was found impossible to obtain an efficient eleven from amongst the former, and accordingly three visitors were pressed into the service. The residents, &c., on, won the match by 159 runs to 79.—The second, and as it proved, the last competition for the Goodison Challenge Cup came off on the 28th ult., Mr. A. C. Sim, the holder of the trophy, again making the top score, and securing it for good. The winner's score was less by three points than last time, as he only made 57, which cannot be considered at all good. He and two others elected to shoot in the early morning, although rain was falling. At the 200 yds. range, a smart squall blew from the east, and the score at that range was poor, but as the wind fell light, at the 300 yds. the winner's score was remarkably good, the bull's eye being only an eight-inch circular one. Mr. Rohde made steady shooting throughout, and came within a point of the winning score, thus securing second honours. It will be interesting to riflemen to give the full score:—

|                          | 100 yds. | 200 yds. | 300 yds. | Total. | Grand Total. |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------|--------------|
| A. C. Sim.....           | 44554-22 | 52344-13 | 55545-22 | 57     |              |
| R. Rohde.....            | 35545-22 | 52344-13 | 23343-15 | 56     |              |
| J. J. Cann.....          | 43554-21 | 45135-21 | 34023-12 | 54     |              |
| E. H. Gill.....          | 44544-21 | 43440-15 | 44242-16 | 52     |              |
| M. T. B. Macpherson..... | 44434-19 | 43434-18 | 83344-14 | 51     |              |
| F. S. Goodison.....      | 33345-18 | 44444-20 | 32224-13 | 51     |              |
| P. S. Syme.....          | 24445-19 | 43224-15 | 63244-13 | 47     |              |
| H. J. H. Tripp.....      | 41444-20 | 24224-11 | 62224-14 | 35     |              |
| H. Liddell.....          | 32342-14 | 32324-14 | 20020-4  | 32     |              |

Another handicap match—one of a novel character—will be brought off on Saturday next, 7th inst. Competitors will have to shoot from rifle-pits, or trenches, which will be excavated for the occasion; each man will have a target to himself, 6 feet high and 2 broad, and the work required of him will be to put as many shots into it as he can within 90 seconds. The competitors will all shoot together. The affair will afford on-lookers a good idea of what the real thing is, and is likely to prove an exciting performance to those who participate as well as to bystanders—much more so than ordinary target shooting. The practice cannot fail to be of service to those who avail themselves of it. Four prizes will be given—two or more of them rifles—and there will be no entrance fee.

In Osaka and Kobe, and in all other large towns, the butchers, who do a thriving business during the cold weather, give up the sale of beef on the approach of summer, and turn their attention to ice. This appears to be the rule all over the Empire—butter in winter, ice-man in summer. Rather a strange mixture of trades.

There was an execution at the jail on the 29th ult., the person on whom the extreme penalty of the law was visited being a man convicted of murder. He has been about three years in prison, having been arrested in the old Saitama Ken—now a part of Hiogo Ken. The delay in carrying out the ends of justice has been caused by failure to gather up until now some missing links in the chain of evidence. The processes of Japanese law though slow are pretty sure. The judge is loth to commit himself to decisive action; but the guilt of the accused once established, vengeance follows swiftly. Three or four foreigners asked and were accorded permission by the Kenchō to witness the execution. Fortunately for themselves, they arrived on the scene at a too early hour, and as the exact time for the rising of the curtain on the grim tragedy had not been fixed, they were fain to depart without have partaken of the ghoulis banquet. The Japanese criminal usually meets his fate with the solidly characteristic of the people. This frame of mind is in many cases artificially induced, as the authorities supply the condemned man with all the *saké* he likes to drink, just before the execution, and in the majority of cases he goes on to the ground in a state of obliviousness.

#### YOKOHAMA.

The *Herald* says General Van Buren has convened a meeting of American residents of this place and Tokio, at the International Hotel, to which members of other nationalities are also invited, to consult on the measures to be taken on the arrival of General Grant, ex-President of the United States.—The opening cricket match of the season was played on Saturday afternoon, the 24th ult., the sides being the Old v. the New Members. The oldsters were the victors, by 88 to 85 runs.

From the *Nichi Nichi Shimben* the *Herald* translates the following bits of news:—The cannon-foundry in the artillery-barracks at Koishikawa, which was commenced in 1875, has been completed at a total cost of 360,000 yen.—The price of carbolic acid has greatly risen in Yokohama in consequence of the cholera in Kiushiu and Shikoku.—Fencing has become a favorite exercise with the youths in Tokio and the interior.—A tax of 2 yen annually has been put on bicycles, which are now much in fashion.—The goods sent from Japan to the Sydney

Exhibition numbered 460 cases, weighing 187 tons, and valued at 33,174 yen.—Among the Tokio residents who sent goods to the Paris Exhibition, seven have received gold medals and thirteen honorable mention.

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that orders have been given to the Japanese Consuls in China to arrest any Loochooans that may escape to China.

The *Gazette* notices the important fact that the attention of the Japanese Government is being seriously drawn towards a dangerous class of individuals,—who are daily becoming more numerous in some of the disaffected districts in this country—political lecturers. Numbers have been arraigned before the courts charged with attempting to disturb the peace of the country by making use of seditious language, and have been allowed to depart with a reprimand and a caution, the authorities being desirous of checking this dangerous element in the rising generation by as mild a process as possible. But one man named Nishimura, seems to have taxed the patience of the Osaka authorities beyond all endurance. Time after time he was brought before the Saibansho and allowed to go unpunished. On the 20th instant, however, the judge evidently thought mild means were not duly appreciated by this offender, and to keep him quiet for a little while he was sentenced to seventy days' imprisonment. This will give him time to meditate on the propriety of adopting a subject for his next lecture better calculated to meet with the approval of the local authorities.

Japanese friends tell us, says the *Gazette*, that the new arsenal and dockyard to be founded at Mihara for the Imperial Japanese Navy, will be complete and magnificent. Dry and wet docks are to be constructed fit for the largest war-ships; there will be iron sheds in which iron-clads and wooden war-vessels may be built without hindrance from weather, and concomitant foundries, engine shops, rolling mills, stores, &c., on a grand scale. Nor will ample fortifications, barracks, and armaments be forgotten; so that, ere long, the place will be ready for refitting or constructing fleets which will be protected by defences and secured from all attacks. What the cost will be we cannot ascertain, and it is usual to name small sums at first. Estimates are often deceitful, and if the complete works cost less than 40 or 50 millions of yen we shall be agreeably surprised.

The German brig *Otto* was wrecked on the coast of Yesso on the 22nd instant. The German Consul has received a telegram announcing that all hands were saved.—According to returns recently published it appears that the total number of vessels wrecked on the coast of Yezo, during the year 1878, was less by fifty than in the previous year. In 1878 seventy junks of various classes and ten vessels of foreign build were wrecked, twenty-three men drowned and cargo to the value of 101,491 yen lost.

## Peking Gazettes.

### ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

April 27th.—(1) A decree ordering rigorous steps to be taken for the recovery of large sums of money in which four district Magistrates in Shantung are in default. Two of these officers being dead, the sums for which they are liable will be recovered from their families.

(2) The Governor of Shantung reports the sentences passed in a case of jail breaking in which a prisoner under sentence of death escaped from the cage in which he was confined and the responsible officers have failed to effect his capture after a lapse of a year and a half. The stereotyped account of the escape is given. The officer

in charge went his usual nightly rounds, and having satisfied himself that the manacles and fetters of the prisoners were properly secured, set the guard and left them for the night. A heavy storm of wind and rain arose, and the watchmen went into their room for shelter, where they were overpowered by sleep. The prisoner, seeing his opportunity, wrenched the iron collar from his neck, and having twisted off his handcuffs and leg irons, pulled out one of the bars of his wooden cage and with it worked out a brick in the wall which enabled him to make a hole big enough to creep out of. He then got a bench and placed it against the outer wall, climbed by its aid on to the top, and jumped down into the open. From that time to this he has never been heard of. The turnkey responsible for his custody, as there is proof to show that the escape was owing to his carelessness and not to his connivance, will be punished by the infliction of 100 blows and banishment for three years, which is a mitigation by two degrees of the sentence that was to have been undergone by the prisoner that escaped. Two of the watchmen on duty are dead, but the under-turnkey and clerk, who still survive, are to receive eighty blows, which is the legal punishment for a misdemeanour.

April 28th.—With the exception of a decree conferring further honors on minor officials in connection with the recent ceremony at the Mausolea, the whole of this day's *Gazette* is occupied with a report from the high officers commissioned to investigate the charges brought against the Governor of Shêngking by an officer of the Guards. (See *Gazette* of 7th April.)

April 29th.—(1) A decree appointing Wen Hwui 文暉 to the post of Director of the Court of Imperial Entertainment.

(2) Memorial from the Governor of Kiangsi, reporting a case of highway robbery and murder in the Kan District of that province. Ts'un Ts'ai-hsiu, a worthless vagabond of that district, met some year and a-half ago some friends, five in all, and they commenced to relate to each other how hard the times were, and how difficult it was to get a living. The result of their conversation was a determination then and there to rob some passer-by in a thoroughfare near at hand. With this intention they all started off for the position they intended to take up. They had not gone far before one of their number who had a sore on his left foot, and another who was seized with a pain in his stomach, left them and went back, reducing the number to four. These having arrived at a place called Hwang Kang Ling, picked up a stone a-piece and waited at the side of the road. They had not waited long before one Chou T'ung-fang, a native of a neighbouring district, passed by. He had a belt round his waist in which were dollars, and he carried across his shoulders slung at either end of the pole, packages containing cotton cloth, long ells, thread, and cash, Sun Ts'ai-hsin and Teng Chao-wen ran forward to rob him as soon as they saw him. Sun Hai-yung, one of the four, then threw his stone and hit Chow in the stomach, causing him to drop his pole and lay hold of his parcels, shouting aloud the while for help. Sun Yüeh-ts'ai's stone took him at the back of the head and knocked him over, when he commenced to kick and cry and halloo. Sun Ts'ai-hsin's stone struck him on the knee, and Teng Chao-wen's which caught him over the left eye, killed him. The murderers then proceeded to distribute the plunder, the two renegades coming in for a small share. The following sentences have been awarded:—Sun Ts'ai-hsin, decapitation with exposure of the head; Teng Chao-wen died in prison, but his head will nevertheless be cut off. The two men who did not participate in the murder but only divided the booty, will be banished to

a distant and pestilential frontier. The other parties to the crime being dead, their sentence need not be considered.

April 30th.—(1) A decree conferring further rewards in connection with the recent ceremonies at the Mausolea.

(2) A decree announcing the penalties to be inflicted on the Governor, Financial Commissioner, and late Judge of Shantung for the offence of having accepted presents from their respective subordinates at the festivals and on their birthdays. They are to lose three steps of commutative rank and to be removed to other posts. A further step of commutative rank is to be forfeited by Wen Ko, the Governor, and other officers, whose names are not given, for their negligence in the control of their domestics. (See *Gazette* of 23rd April.)

(3) Postscript memorial from Ch'un Fu, Military Governor of Uliassai, begging that he may this year be absolved from the obligation to send to His Majesty the annual offering of two cases of jam from the *Ha ta* fruit. It has hitherto been the custom to order the Mongol patrols to search for the fruit and send it into the town, where it is made into jam and forwarded to Peking. Last autumn, however, the acting deputy Commandant reported that the year had been so cold and dry that none of the *Ha ta* fruit at Ho-fu-lo-k'e, the place at which it was to be found, had come to maturity, and he was therefore unable to supply any. In reply he was directed to do his utmost to get some, and he now states that he has been with his men all over the hills to hunt for the fruit, but the drought and wind have really checked the growth for last season and none can be found. Under these circumstances memorialist hopes that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to forego the two cases of jam for the present year. The Grand Council had the honor to receive the following Rescript:—"Noted."

May 1st.—(1) The following appointments and transfers are noted:—Governor of Shantung, Chow Heng-ch'i 周恒祺; Financial Commissioner of Chihli, Jen Tao-jung 任道鎔; Financial Commissioner of Chékiang, Tsêng Show 增壽; Judge of Chékiang, Sun Chia-ku 孫家穀; Financial Commissioner of Shantung, Hsieh Yün-shêng 薛久升; Judge of Shansi, Sung Chuang 松椿; Financial Commissioner of Fuhkien, Ch'ing Yü 慶裕; Judge of Shensi, Pien Pao-ch'üan 邊寶泉.

(2) A decree ordering a service of prayers for rain in Peking and Shansi to be held on the 3rd inst. at five of the State Temples. His Majesty will worship at the Ta Kao Tien.

(3) The Governor-General of Min-ché and the Governor of Kwangtung solicit permission for the Prefect of Ch'ao-chow to be allowed to resign his post, and take up his position amongst the list of expectants for Taotaihips, to which class he properly belongs. The usual account of the applicant's official career is given.

(4) The Director-General of the Yellow River and the Governor of Honan submit a return of the amounts collected by the Kweichow contribution agency, the proceeds of which were allowed to be appropriated by Honan for a certain time. This return subdivides the receipts under several complicated headings embracing different grades and classes of officials, which cannot be interesting to the general reader. The accounts embrace a period of twelve months commencing on the 25th January, 1878, and closing on the 7th January, 1879, and the total receipts are given at Tls. 133,545.1.2.4.5.

(5-6) Postscript memorials from the Director-General of the Yellow River soliciting the bestowal of rewards upon an elderly lady and the Prefect of Canton, who have spontaneously contributed sums

of Tls. 1,000 and Tls. 5,000 respectively towards the relief of sufferers by famine.

May 2nd.—(Court Circular.) The Governor of Shun-tien reports a fall of rain in the metropolis to the depth of an inch and upwards of saturation, and a varying depth of an inch or less in the surrounding departments and districts.

(1) A decree ordering the immediate degradation and trial of an expectant Taotai in Szechuen who has been denounced by the Governor-General on a number of charges. Amongst others, he is accused of levying a *lekin* contribution on wells, appropriating public funds, and purchasing a girl as a concubine who was already betrothed.

(2) A decree conferring rewards upon a number of Secretaries recommended by the Prince of Kung and his colleagues for diligence and success in the discharge of their respective duties for several years past. The list of names and rewards conferred occupies nearly eighteen pages of the *Gazette*.

(3) A long memorial from Ting Pao-ch'eng, Governor-General of Szechuen, submitting a scheme for raising funds to take the place of the deficit that will be caused by the abolition of the purchase system. He commences by quoting a report from the Superintendent of the Salt Department who has the control of the export of Government salt on the borders of Kweichow, in which a summary of the accounts for the year 1878 is given. The results of the year's transactions leave the Superintendent with a capital (成本) of over Tls. 1,200,000, and now that the Government monopoly has been extended to the borders of Yunnan and embraces over thirty sub-prefectures and districts, this capital will require to be augmented by Tls. 500,000. If the present year's operations are successful, the receipts will be considerably increased, and the Superintendent therefore proposes to forward an annual subsidy from these receipts of Tls. 180,000 to the Board of Revenue. The memorialist commends this plan, and considers that the gradual reascutition of the Government salt trade warrants belief that this amount can be annually forwarded. After quoting the orders he has received relative to the abolition of purchase, and commending the measure, he suggests that the subsidy above referred to will aptly take the place of the revenue that is forfeited by the abolition of purchase.

(4) Postscript memorial from the same officer reporting the result of an investigation into the conduct of Hwang Tsu-chien, a sub-district Deputy Magistrate, who had been charged with inflicting punishment on innocent witnesses and causing the death of one of them. The facts have been ascertained to be as follows:—The Deputy Magistrate had charge of a small district in Chung-chow in Szechuen. Four years ago one P'eng and his brother-in-law robbed the corn fields of a neighbour called Ting Fu-k'ê. A complaint was made at the Magistracy, and a bowman was sent to arrest the man P'eng's wife and bring her to the Court as a witness. Upon interrogation she confessed that her husband had committed the theft in company with others, and while orders were given for her husband's arrest, she was released on her father's security. The excitement and movement had been too much for a woman in her situation, however, and she gave birth prematurely to a child which died. The confinement was not, as alleged, caused by any violent treatment on the part of Ting Fu-k'ê, the neighbour who had been robbed. The woman P'eng's mother-in-law when she heard that her son had been incriminated by his wife, did nothing but abuse and reproach her on every occasion. In the meantime the guilty parties were arrested, and Yang Hsiao-shih, the husband of defendant's mother having interfered with the police in the execution

of their duty, was arrested with them. His behaviour in Court when called upon for an explanation was insolent and abusive, whereupon he and the other defendants were ordered to be beaten and exposed in the cangue. This so irritated the mother-in-law that she beat her son's wife with a bamboo stick and caused her to cry bitterly. She was consoled for the time, but her mother-in-law's reproaches weighed upon her mind and she went into Ting Fu-k'ê's garden and hanged herself upon a tree. At this stage the whole case was removed into a high Court, and the Deputy Magistrate was denounced. The enquiries resulting from this denunciation elicited the facts above detailed, and certain penalties would now be inflicted upon the Deputy Magistrate were it not for the fact that he has since died.

May 3rd.—(1) A decree ordering Yang Chung-ya, Governor of Kwangsi, to vacate his post and come to the Capital to await other employment. Chang Shu-sh'eng 張樹聲 is to take his place, and Ts'ên Yü-ying 岑毓英 is to succeed him as Governor of Kweichow. (Note.—Ts'ên Yü-ying, who was Governor of Yunnan at the time of the murder of Mr. Margary, vacated that post on the 17th May, 1876, to go into mourning for his adopted mother.)

(2) The Court of Censors report the following appeal case:—Hsiü Wên-hsing, a native of the Yung-hsing district in Hunan, sent an agent with a petition complaining that his uncle having had a dispute with an employé called Ts'ao on the subject of wages due, was killed by one Kuei and others at Ts'ao's instigation. The murder was witnessed by a stonemason called Wu, who divulged the secret one day in the course of conversation. Guided by the remarks he let fall, petitioner made search for the body in a certain copse and finding a spot in which the earth was "loose," he dug down and discovered his uncle's body covered with wounds. He at once reported the matter to the *ti-pao*, but the murderer tampered with him and got the depositions altered. He also bribed some persons to file a counter-statement, declaring that the body discovered was that of a beggar who had died by the side of the road. An appeal to the Magistrate was dismissed, and the petitioner was subjected to bodily punishment for daring to lodge a complaint. After appeal to the Prefect, an inquest was held, at which the coroner declared that wounds had been inflicted, but his finding was set aside on the ground that he had been intimidated. Petitioner then applied to the Sub-prefect and was put in prison for doing so. His brother thereupon complained to the Taotai, Judge, and Governor in succession, but none of them would have the case brought on for hearing, so that, despairing of justice in his own province, he finally despatched an agent with a petition to Peking.—Referred in the usual manner.

May 4th.—A decree acknowledging the receipt of a report from Li Hung-chang, Governor-General of Chihli, who had been directed to investigate a number of charges brought against Ying Liang, Intendant of the Tung-yung Circuit in that province, by a Censor. One of the charges against him was that he was the holder of land within his own jurisdiction. Enquiry shows that the Intendant did, in effect, possess a burial ground, and sacrificial land forming the endowment of this ground, in villages in the Ta-hsing and San-ho districts respectively, but that his uncle and nephew had exchanged this land for Government property [which was leased to them (7)], and bought some more property near Tung-chow and San-ho. As, however, there is no specific legal proviso applying the law of "withdrawal" to Manchou officials holding land within their own jurisdiction, the Intendant is not

guilty of any misdemeanour in holding the property referred to. It has been found that the said Intendant did not engage in commercial transactions; that he did not level a burial ground belonging to a private individual at Hsin-tien; that the charge of unauthorisedly substituting building materials in the construction of the Yamén of the Intendancy is untrue, inasmuch as the funds for this purpose were contributed by himself; that his frequent annual visits with his wife and family to the ancestral tombs were not the occasion of any disturbance whatever, nor were they made a pretext for promiscuous gadding; that he did not put out the public funds under his charge at interest and appropriate this interest, &c., &c. Under these circumstances the accusations brought forward by the Censor are dismissed, but as the Intendant has shown a want of zeal and attention in the execution of river works, giving rise to much comment in the numerous villages under his control, he is at once to vacate his post and to return to the Board to await other employment.

(2) A joint memorial from the supervising Censor and Acting Censor of the northern division of the metropolis reporting the arrest of the members of a gang of burglars who committed a robbery in open daylight in a lane to the westward of the *Ta Sha Lan* street in Peking. They quote the various decrees on the subject that have appeared in the *Gazette* (summaries of which have been made), and then proceed to report that immediately notice of the burglary was brought to them the police were set in motion and rewards issued for the arrest of the perpetrators of so daring an outrage. In the afternoon of the same day a woman called Chang came to the memorialist's place (坊) and related in vociferous tones how on that morning in broad daylight a number of rascals headed by one Sung Liu, armed with knives and other weapons, had broken into her house, wounded her aunt, and carried off her husband's female cousin as well as a number of clothes and head ornaments. In course of time a number of the burglars, first one and then another, whose names and soubriquets are given, were arrested. When brought up for examination they obstinately refused to tell the truth, in spite of the numerous and positive testimony of various eyewitnesses and others. Sun Liu has now at last confessed, but the others continue to give varnished and embellished statements, avoiding the point at issue. The memorialists have now sent them on to the Board of Punishments, and beg that this Bureau may now be instructed to place the above mentioned criminals, with those who have before been sent to them, on their trial.

(4) The same memorialists beg to report, with reference to another case of burglary, that the limit allowed for the apprehension of the criminals has now been exceeded. They pray therefore that the responsible district officer may, as a preliminary step, be committed to the Board for the infliction of a penalty.—Sanctioned by decree earlier issued.

May 5th.—(1) The Governor of Anhwei reports the trial of an ex-district Magistrate for defalcations in his accounts and the sentence passed upon him. Lu Yü-pi, an Expectant Sub-prefect, was acting Magistrate of the Shun-yi district from November, 1871, until November, 1872, and was unable to hand over to his successor the sum of Tls. 1,335.23 for which he was responsible. He was accordingly denounced, and his button was taken away by Imperial decree ordering him to be placed on his trial. The Governor's first step was to send the district Magistrate of Huaining to the ex-officer's temporary place of abode to make a careful search of the premises and confiscate everything he could find, but all he discovered were a few clothes and odds and ends—there was



no property whatever. The Governor also wrote to the Governor of Honan to direct the Prefect of Hsin-yang, the ex-Magistrate's native place, to confiscate any property his family might possess in that place; and, finally, ordered steps to be taken with a view to ascertaining whether he possessed property at the places in which he had previously held office. In the meantime the ex-Magistrate was handed over to the Prefect for trial and by him passed on to the two Commissioners who, in turn, passed him on to memorialist. The result of these several enquiries proved that the ex-Magistrate, being called upon during his term of office to repair a sea wall or break-water forming a refuge for junks in the Tai-hu Lake in bad weather, as well as an examination shed that had fallen down, and having no money to do so, appropriated, at one time and another, Tls. 1,335.23 from the tax receipts in his treasury. The deficit was discovered by his successor when he took over charge, and immediately reported. The law lays down that the penalty for removal of Treasury funds to be applied to other than their legitimate ends shall, if the sum so removed be under Tls. 5,000, be punishable by banishment. A limit of four years, however, is allowed for the deficit to be made good. If the whole be paid within one year, the punishment is remitted; if within two, it is diminished by two degrees; if within three years, by one degree. But if at the end of the fourth year the whole has not been paid, a penalty shall be inflicted proportionate to the amount that still remains unpaid. Lu Yü-pi, whose offence does not come within the scope of the Act of Grace, will now be imprisoned, and if at the end of twelve months he has not made good the deficit, further steps will be taken. The effects seized at his lodging are valued at Tls. 1.6.2, which will be placed to his credit as an instalment of his debt. The Sub-prefect of Hsin-yang writes to say that Lu Yü-pi has no relations at his native place, and no property to confiscate. His servant who did not "respectfully" prevent his master from removing the funds in question, should receive eighty blows for "misdemeanour," but he escapes under the Act of Grace.

May 6th.—(1) Liu Chang-yo, Governor-General of Yunnan and Kweichow, requests permission for two military officers serving in Yunnan and Kweichow respectively to effect an exchange of posts, as their present stations bring them within the limits in which "respectful withdrawal" should be observed. In a letter from the Board of War, received some time ago, an order was conveyed that, military operations being now at an end in Yunnan, the law of "respectful withdrawal" should be enforced in the case of military officers whom in affected, and arrangements should be made for their exchange of duties with officers in Kweichow, who were under the same jurisdiction.—Referred to the Board of War.

(2) T'an Chung-lin, Governor of Shensi, requests His Majesty graciously to grant him permission to vacate his post, as he is suffering from chronic disorder of the liver which recurs at intervals, insomnia caused by anxiety in connection with famine matters, asthma, giddiness, and dimness of vision, while after a lengthened conversation with visitors the root of his tongue becomes corrugated and speech fails him. With disorders so numerous and complicated to contend against, rest and quiet are absolutely necessary, medicine alone being inadequate to work a cure.—Rescript: Let T'an Chung-lin be granted two months' congé. He need not vacate his post. The Governor in question has heretofore discharged his duties with zeal and sincerity. So critical a period of affairs as the present is just the occasion for striving to repay his debt of gratitude to his Sovereign. He must not suddenly give in at the outset (遽萌退志.)

(3) The same officer acknowledges the receipt of the Imperial decree ordering the abolition of the purchase system. In accordance with the instructions therein contained he has given orders to the office for the receipt of contributions of rice in Si-an Fu to be closed at the end of the second moon. He proposes to fix the end of the 5th moon as the time of closing for the agencies in Szechuen, Kwangtung, and Shangtung in consideration of their distance. Returns of receipts for the Si-an office will be sent in within five months, the limit fixed by the Board, but he begs permission to defer rendering accounts for the other agencies until six months after the date of their being closed.—Rescript: Let the Board of Revenue take note.

May 7th.—(1) The following decree has been reverently received from Their Majesties the Emperress:—The Board of Civil Office reports that the second Secretary Wu K'o-tu has put an end to himself by swallowing poison, and that he has left behind him a secret memorial which they beg to present on his behalf. With regard to the request contained in this memorial, that We will issue an explicit decree in Our joint names, providing beforehand for the reversion of the dynastic succession into the main or proper line, a decree was promulgated on the 22nd January, 1875, providing that when the inheriting Emperor should have a prince born to him, this son should be the adopted heir of the Emperor that had passed away. This was the intention conveyed in the decree that was issued on that occasion which Wu K'o-tu has now referred to in his memorial. Let the Princes, High Ministers, Grand Secretaries, Presidents of Boards, Nine Chief Ministries of State, the College of Literature, Imperial Supervisorate of Instruction, Office of Scrutiny, and the Censorate, jointly and duly consider the memorial of Wu K'o-tu and report to Us thereon.

(2) Memorial from Ch'i Yuan-ch'ing and K'ai Ngén-fu, reporting that the survey of the Wei Ch'ang, or Imperial Hunting Reserves, has been completed and the land occupied by squatters measured and marked out. This survey was undertaken in consequence of an application from the Superintendent of the Eastern Circuit, who represented to Ch'ung How, the former Military Governor, that a cordon of squatters were establishing themselves round the Hunting Reserves without authority to do so, and that in consequence of the enormous extent of these reserves it was impossible for him to exercise proper supervision without the assistance of special officers told off for the purpose. For years past squatters had been quietly encroaching, more particularly in certain localities known as Na-tan-po, T'u-k'ou-tzu, etc., etc., while their numbers were increased by refugees from the east of Chihli, who built themselves mat sheds and took possession of unoccupied land. As the wholesale expulsion of so large a number of people might meet with resistance and be attended with considerable danger, the exercise of great care and thought was necessary, and His Majesty was besought, in merciful leniency for the past, to allow those who had already cleared the land to have their holdings surveyed for taxation, careful lines of limitation being marked out, and the scattered squatters relegated to selected spots, while a large proportion of the Reserves was set aside for military exercises. These proposals received the Imperial sanction, and a Deputy Lieutenant-General, a Colonel, and other officers were specially charged with the care of the Hunting Reserves with orders to put the scheme into execution. In course of time the Colonel, by name Wen Hsu, reported that in order to execute a proper survey of the Hunting Reserves and define its limits, with the exercise of due consideration for the interests of the people in such wise as not to cause their

ejection or removal to other spots to bear too hardly upon them, it would be necessary to retain the boundary hills of the great Reserve, clear out the long trench or ditch and follow the line of the river [that formed its boundary.] The circuit of the Reserves would then extend over a distance of something more than 1,000 li. He proposed to remove the squatters on the land under the control of Na-tan-po and three other stations to the north and south banks of the Liu River, and allot other tracts of land outside the ditch that was now to be dug to those squatters that were occupying land in the new Reserves and to admit them to taxation. He described the boundaries of the area that would thus be under cultivation as follows:—From T'u-kou-tzu to Tung-ta-kow, thence in an oblique north-westerly direction to Sé-li-ho and Chin-feng-tui, 350-360 li. Length from north to south from 100-450 li. The plan proposed having been submitted to Ch'ung How and having received his sanction, the officers entrusted with its execution proceeded to carry it into effect, and they now state that the squatters within the large Hunting Ground have all been ejected and placed elsewhere, while the occupants of the new Reserve have paid taxes on their holdings, an area of over twenty thousand *mow* of waste and cultivated land, exclusive of hills, rivers and timber, having thus been taken possession of by the squatters. The land has been measured by officers specially appointed for the purpose, and over 1,020,000 strings of Kwantung cash collected as a deposit [for security for payment of taxes] upon the waste land now made over. The rate of taxation is fixed at 2 candareens per *mow*, with a waste allowance of one candareen more, and the first levy will be made in the autumn of the present year. In commenting upon the reform that has now been accomplished, the memorialists admit that the occupation of the Hunting Reserves by squatters was due to a want of proper supervision and a failure on the part of the responsible officials to enforce the privacy of these Reserves. Thanks, however, to the benevolence of His Majesty in graciously admitting these people to the privileges of taxation, joy has entered into ten thousand homes, and the indigent subject has found a place of abode. To render the benefits thus conferred lasting and complete, these people should be brought under proper official influence and control. The present military force posted at the various *t'ai* or stations is quite inadequate for the control of so large an area as the one under consideration, and it is proposed that a larger official staff shall be maintained. The question of expense is of course a serious consideration, but this difficulty it is proposed to meet by appropriating the "waste allowance" on the million or more of *mow* on which taxes will be paid. This waste allowance is estimated at Tls. 10,000 odd. For this expenditure an additional force of 200 soldiers and 300 *sala* or Manchu bondsmen (!), with proper officers over them, will be maintained in this region.—Referred by Rescript to the proper Board.

## Public Meetings.

### MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held at the Council Room, No. 17, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, the 29th May, 1879, at 9 o'clock a.m.

Present:—Messrs. R. W. Little (chairman), R. H. Artindale, W. Howie, H. G. Hübbe, E. G. Vouillemont, J. Welch, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous meeting are read, confirmed, signed, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement, for the week ending 28th instant, submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts signed.

**Explosion at Torch-light Procession.**—It is decided to circulate a subscription list on behalf of the natives injured by the explosion, and to appoint a Committee to investigate and report upon the cause of the accident.

**Volunteers.**—Authority is given for the purchase of 2,000 @ 3,000 rounds of blank ammunition for the Gatling Gun.

**Local Post Office.**—Circulation of Evening Newspapers. — The Local Postmaster to be instructed that newspapers intended for distribution the same evening, must be sent to the Local Post Office at or before 7 o'clock.

#### CHINA FAMINE RELIEF COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the above Committee was held yesterday. Present:—W. S. Wetmore, Esq., in the chair; Dr. Johnston, Rev. Dr. Nelson, Rev. E. R. Palmer and Rev. W. Muirhead. H.E. Sir Thomas Wade and Mr. Skelly (acting Treasurer), were also present.

It was stated by the Treasurer that Tls. 973.78 was the balance now on hand.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the principal matter to be considered was the publication of the Report of the Committee, which had been deferred until the close of the relief work; and in the meantime the Report of the Tientsin Committee by Mr. Forrest, H.M.'s Consul, and of a journey into the famine districts by Mr. Hillier, of H.M. Consular service, had been published, in accordance with the resolution at the last meeting of the Committee. Copies of these were laid on the table, and the Secretary stated he had circulated a number among the contributors to the fund.

Sir THOMAS WADE, who had been a member of the London Committee, said he thought it desirable that a report from this Committee should be issued as soon as possible, embodying the particulars of the formation of the Committee, the progress of the work, the manifest effects of it upon the people, and the details furnished by the letters and communications of the various distributors. These might be drawn up in pamphlet form, to include the reports already published, and the whole to contain suitable material for a review in the leading journals at home, which would be of great service in diffusing information and awakening interest in the subject.

The Committee approved most fully of the recommendation, and the Secretary stated that he had a large amount of correspondence in hand connected with the famine relief work, and it would afford him pleasure to put it into form and order, so as to make it available for publication. It would require some time before this could be done, but the various suggestions that had been made would be attended to, and an appropriate memorial of the work of the Committee might be expected in due course.

WM. MUIRHEAD,  
Hony. Secy.

#### Amusements.

##### OFFICERS' CHALLENGE RIFLE COMPETITION.

This interesting little-go took place Wednesday morning in splendid weather, the sun if anything being somewhat too bright and casting a glare upon the targets. Three teams of three each competed, viz., from the U.S. corvette *Monocacy*, H.M. sloop *Egeria*, and the Shanghai Volunteers, the latter being the challengers. It was hoped that officers from the French corvette *Champlain* and also the Russian war vessels in port would have joined in the contest.

The ranges were 200, 400, and 600 yards, and at the latter the match be-

came very exciting. Messrs. Price and Scott, of the *Monocacy*, fired with the Peabody rifle, and all the other competitors with the service Martini-Henry. The *Egerias* proved the victors, beating the Volunteers by 32 points, the latter being ahead of the *Monocacies* by two points only. Sub-Lieutenant Dayrell Davies, of the *Egeria*, took the laurel for highest individual score with 70 points; the second being Chief Engineer Kelly, of the *Monocacy*, who made 67.

Appended are the scores:—

| H.M.S. "EGERIA."           |            |            |            |        |              |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------|--------------|
|                            | 200 yds.   | 400 yds.   | 600 yds.   | Total. | Grand Total. |
| Davies, Dayrell, ...       | 432334-22  | 545-545-33 | 3232-02-16 | 70     |              |
| Sub. Lieut. ...            | 522222-17  | 1342454-22 | 334452-21  | 60     |              |
| Kirby, Gunner, ...         | 3223245-21 | 2222354-17 | 0r2020-2   | 5-46   |              |
| Moody, Nav. Lieut. ....    |            |            |            |        |              |
|                            | 60         | 72         |            |        | 44 176       |
| S. V. C.                   |            |            |            |        |              |
|                            | 200 yds.   | 400 yds.   | 600 yds.   | Total. | Grand Total. |
| Sim, Lieut. ....           | 4425435-27 | 243224-19  | 2r2242-12  | 58     |              |
| Holliday, Capt. ...        | 352222-19  | 524502-18  | 0422552-20 | 67     |              |
| Commander ...              | 2202022-10 | 0520025-14 | 3r00002-   | 5-29   |              |
| Mackenzie, Lieut. ...      |            |            |            |        |              |
|                            | 56         | 51         |            |        | 37 144       |
| U.S. "MONOCACY."           |            |            |            |        |              |
|                            | 200 yds.   | 400 yds.   | 600 yds.   | Total. | Grand Total. |
| Kelly, Chief Engineer, ... | 5524435-25 | 5552333-28 | 205232-14  | 67     |              |
| Scott, Ensign, ...         | 2223333-17 | 3203434-19 | 4002rrr-   | 6-42   |              |
| Price, Surgeon, ...        | 4322433-21 | 292rr2-3   | 5 00r230r- | 4-33   |              |
|                            | 63         | 55         |            |        | 24 142       |

#### No. 2 Co. S.V.C. MONTHLY RIFLE COMPETITION.

This praiseworthy competition for the monthly Challenge Cup of the above-named Company of the S.V.C., which has been continued for so many months and in all seasons with such noticeable regularity on the first Saturday in each month, came off on Saturday last, commencing at 6.5 a.m. There were 23 entrants, of whom 17 shot in the early morning and two at three o'clock in the afternoon, four failing to put in any appearance.

The scores made were very good, proving conclusively the unerring results of steady and continuous practice—the effect, however, probably being, as in No. 1 Company, to keep less experienced marksmen from the range. It may be asked, Why do not these practice as others have done, and so qualify themselves for the general competition? The question is a difficult one to answer, it is true, because of the announcements made from time to time as to the range being open for practice and also as to the supply of ammunition. The fact nevertheless remains that out of a total of about 150 members of the Corps, including the Artillery, less than forty are found willing to "splash lead" for prizes, the same names appearing on the score-sheets with almost the regularity of certain lots in an auctioneer's catalogue. Notwithstanding the seeming difficulty of the question at the first blush, it still remains one worthy the consideration of the officers of each Company, in the hope that some plan may be devised to bring forward the inexperienced riflemen.

The intention of Captain Harvie, of No. 2 Company, in future (at least for some time to come), to extend the ranges from 200 and 500 yards to 500 and 800 yards, opens the door to an excellent opportunity for offering an inducement to those who are bad shots probably only for want of practice in actual competition with their fellows in inexperience, to come forward and take up the ranges until now used by the efficient, by presenting, say, a tankard or ordinary cup to be competed for on the second Saturday in each month. The suggestion, of course, applies equally to the members of No. 1 Company. Mi-ho-

Loongs, who are exactly in the same predicament—a deficiency of good or even passable marksmen in comparison with the number of members enrolled.

At all events, let it be tried for a season, for it is not reasonable to expect non-efficient to offer themselves in competition with such shots as Sergeant Tucker, or Privates Bowman, Johnston, Tolliday, Ambrose, Thirby and others, as the scores made in Saturday's competition amply testify. From these it will be seen that Private Bowman obtained a total of 64 out of a possible 70, said to be the highest yet made at the two ranges of 200 and 500 yards; Private Johnston being second with 59, four others being among the 50's, and no fewer than seven in the 40's, altogether showing the great improvement effected, but which, however, it is desirable to see still more widely extended among the Volunteers generally.

Subjoined are the scores of Saturday last, over 30 points:—

|                       | 200 yds.   | 400 yds.   | 600 yds. | Total. | Grand Total. |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|----------|--------|--------------|
| Priv. Bowman, ...     | 4455454-21 | 5555544-33 | 61       |        |              |
| " Johnston, ...       | 354544-20  | 454455-30  | 50       |        |              |
| " Tolliday, ...       | 3334435-25 | 2545554-30 | 55       |        |              |
| " Ambrose, ...        | 4332433-23 | 3455445-31 | 54       |        |              |
| " Thirby, ...         | 4334433-24 | 3355445-30 | 54       |        |              |
| " Gould, ...          | 3524334-24 | 5344552-27 | 51       |        |              |
| Serg. Tucker, ...     | 3554344-28 | 5423522-21 | 40       |        |              |
| Priv. S. Moutrie, ... | 3522321-21 | 3325454-26 | 47       |        |              |
| " Pardon, ...         | 4433222-20 | 3524353-25 | 45       |        |              |
| " Roberts, ...        | 3335544-27 | 0343222-17 | 44       |        |              |
| " O'Rourke, ...       | 4332345-23 | 3455445-31 | 54       |        |              |
| " Eckhold, ...        | 4334433-24 | 2924343-21 | 43       |        |              |
| " Grisdale, ...       | 3443314-25 | 0004435-16 | 41       |        |              |
| " Rowland, ...        | 2232242-17 | 2434544-21 | 38       |        |              |
| " Sellers, ...        | 3432242-20 | 2520342-18 | 38       |        |              |
| " Williams, ...       | 3322222-17 | 0222422-14 | 31       |        |              |

#### Correspondence.

##### THE FAMINE IN THE NORTH.

The following is the substance of a letter from Tai-yuen-foo, Shansi, dated 14th of April, 1879, and addressed to T. T. Fergusson, Esq., Belgian Consul at Chefoo, by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Shansi:—

"The said Bishop writes saying that he felt very thankful for the 3,000 Taels which the Shanghai Relief Committee sent to him on the 5th March, and that he hoped God would abundantly reward all the benefactors of the famine-stricken sufferers. By the letters he received lately from several of his priests, he thinks that unless abundant rain comes, great distress will continue to fall upon the unfortunate Shansi people. By the census he lately caused to be taken of his Christians, he finds that 5,538 persons are no more. Many have died of hunger, and many of the *shang han ping* 傷寒病, and some have emigrated to other parts of the Empire. So that the Christians he has alive amount to 13,081, and of these 4,704 continue to be in the greatest need. His missionaries often write to him for more relief. He distributes as fast as he receives, but they ask also money to buy seed, and one of them asks him if they have no seed to put into the ground how can they reap? In that case, even supposing that it should rain, the Christians of his district will have to continue in a state of famine. Others have sold all they had in this world in order to save their families from death, and now they depend altogether on the Catholic missionaries for their livelihood; so in one way or other the priests must try to provide food for these 4,704, at least till the summer crop—if there be any—is ripe. In certain places the number of the needy is increasing. A priest on the 5th of April wrote to him from 洪洞縣, Hung-tung hsien, that the families he has to support had augmented by 53, that is, 165 persons, and he is greatly afraid the number will continue to increase. Another writes that the pagans not only bring to him their babies, but also their children of seven or eight years of age, which they never did

before. The Bishop concludes that the present condition of things is still very miserable, and that the future looks very gloomy."

#### THE DARIEN CANAL.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—In every maritime country, and in every centre of maritime commerce, a great deal of interest will be felt in the International Congress which assembled in Paris on the 15th day of this month, for the purpose of discussing and adopting the plan and route most practicable for an inter-oceanic Canal across the Isthmus of Panama.

The President of the Congress will be the world-wide known Monsieur Ferdinand De Lesseps, of Suez Canal fame, to whose genius it would almost appear that Providence has entrusted and reserved the mission of altering the Geography of the Globe for the benefit of mankind and science.

A powerful Company for the promotion and carrying out of this inter-oceanic Canal has long been formed in Paris, presided over by an Italian General, Signor Stefano Turr, and has lately made a Convention with the United States of Columbia, which gives her the right to cut and own a navigable canal from the Atlantic to the Pacific at any chosen point on the territory of the Republic, for the term of ninety-nine years. The agent for the Company in this Convention was a Captain in the French Navy, named Lucien Napoleon Bonaparte Wye.

The Suez Canal presented for its principal advantages those of bringing Europe and Asia nearer to each other, especially to the evergreen Spice Islands, of which Sumatra is the Queen in the same manner as Cuba is of the West Indies; and to return to the Levant and South of Europe, more particularly to the cities situated on the classic shores of Italy, the ancient commercial prosperity wrenched from them by the discovery of Vasco di Gama.

The Darien Canal, which will unite the waters of the two grand Oceans, the Atlantic and the Pacific, at the latitude of 10 degrees North of the Equator, would receive from both sides an ample amount of wind, and for space offers to the sailing navigators an immensity, sparing them the long and dangerous voyage round Cape Horn. At the proposed outlet of the Darien Canal into the Pacific, is found at a short distance the great Antarctic current of cold water, which has its direction from South to North all the year round; it washes the coast of North America, goes through the Straits of Behring, enters the Polar Sea, and then ends its course among the ice of the Arctic Circle. On the Atlantic side is found the great Equatorial current of warm water known as the Gulf Stream, which comes from the Southern hemisphere, runs all along the coast of South America, enters the Caribbean Sea, crosses the Gulf of Mexico, and in tremendous volume finds its way through the Straits of Florida to the Eastern Atlantic, and, freighted with tropic warmth, carries a soft and pleasant climate to the British Isles; thence goes to mitigate the Arctic cold on the coasts of Sweden and Norway, and finally, like the Antarctic current, also enters the Polar Sea and plunges beneath the ice of the Arctic Circle. These two currents, with steady winds on both sides of the Darien Canal, are very advantageous for sailing vessels; while the tide of the Red Sea from Suez to Aden, which runs from two to three miles per hour, and being without regular monsoons is very dangerous for sailing navigation, rendering it almost impossible.

The Darien Canal will extend for half a century to come the existence and utility of sailing ships, and will in no way endanger the merits and business of the Suez

Canal, for the reason that between Europe and the Far East, *via* the Red Sea, everything is transported by steamers, which carry passengers, treasures, mails and light and valuable merchandise worthy of the high price of rapid transit.

The Darien Canal will be of equal advantage to both Europe and Asia as the Suez Canal has been, but will be detrimental to Africa. All the raw, heavy, cheap, but necessary, productions of Asia and of Oceania, for Europe and *vice versa*, have to go through the long, tedious, and costly voyage round the Cape of Good Hope. By the Darien Canal, when open to navigation, the distance will be much shortened, and consequently the time as well, while the prices of transportation and that of produce will be reduced.

America, of all parts of the world, will be the most benefited by the Darien Canal. The United States and Mexico will at once have their Atlantic ports in immediate communication with those on the Pacific Slope, and San Francisco will become the clearing house of the Pacific. The Republics of Central and South America on the Pacific coast, especially Guatemala, Peru, and Chili—favoured with very fertile soil, benign climate, and vast mineral resources, will undoubtedly take a prominent part in the great commercial development of which the Darien Canal will be the lever.

The Darien Canal and the trans-Pacific cable will be the vital artery of the commerce of the Universe. They are two of the grandest possibilities of the present—they will be two of the grandest facts of the future—and they are an imperative necessity for all. The magnitude of these two enterprises ought to infuse enthusiasm in Governments and peoples.

Yours, &c.,

C. C. MORENO.

Peking, 23rd May, 1879.

### Miscellaneous.

#### THE SUICIDE OF WU K'O-TU.

In the accounts that we have seen of the interment of the late Emperor, but little mention has been made of an event which we believe will have greater interest for most readers than descriptions of a tawdry pageant seen at best but imperfectly.

Those who read the translations of the *Peking Gazette* may remember that about seven years ago a General named Ch'eng Lu, in command on the Western frontier, was impeached for the ruthless slaughter of a whole village of innocent people—men, women and children. The most violent of his accusers was a Censor, named Wu K'o-tu, an officer with a high character for integrity and scholarship. After narrating the circumstances, and enlarging on the ruthless cruelty of the crime, Wu dared to say that only two courses were open to the Emperor, either, if his statements were correct, to order the death of Ch'eng Lu, or if they were false, Wu's own. Eventually, through his interest, it is said, with one of the Royal Princes, Ch'eng Lu was spared and Wu degraded for the vehemence of his impeachment. Recently, Wu has been appointed a Secretary in one of the Boards. Last month, when the Emperor went to the Eastern Tombs to attend the burial of his predecessor, Wu was amongst the numerous retinue and lived in a Temple outside the East Gate of Chi-chou, a place on the route. He sent one evening for the District Magistrate and told him mysteriously that if anything happened the people of the Temple would not be to blame. During the night he swallowed a draught of opium, and then hanged himself. In the morning it was found that he had left a "Death-bed letter" to the Empresses. This letter is printed in the *Peking Gazette* of the 15th May, and is well worth perusal. It begins as follows:—"Wu K'o-tu, a Secretary

of the Board of Civil Office, presents a memorial praying that Their Majesties the Empresses will promulgate a decree to determine the succession to the Throne. He lays down his life as a propitiatory offering, content if only they will grant his request and thus satisfy his sincere devotion to His late Majesty."

To understand what follows, we must remind our readers that on the death of Tung Chih in 1874, leaving no heir, his first cousin was adopted as son to Hsien Feng, and therefore brother to Tung Chih, and was placed upon the Throne under the name of Kuang Hsi, the present Emperor. Thus Tung Chih is left without posterity. The vast importance which the Chinese attach to this fact can probably be but dimly realized by foreigners, even when we remember that ancestral worship is the State religion—that is, the religion of the whole educated class—and that while the family is the basis of the State system, the Imperial Throne is the model family. If on the death of Tung Chih the succession had been regulated in accordance with recognized principles, there would have been no difficulty. A child of the royal house of the generation below Tung Chih, might have been placed upon the Throne and adopted as his son. Why, then, was this not done? Because the Empress, wife of Tung Chih, would then have been Regent, as mother of his adopted son; while by causing the adoption of the young Emperor as son to Hsien Feng, the present Empresses Regent, as his natural guardians, since they were the wives of Hsien Feng, secured a new lease of the power they had enjoyed during the long minority of Tung Chih (1861-1873.)

Now let us return to Wu's memorial. After expressing his feelings of boundless gratitude to the late Emperor in that he lightened his punishment after the Ch'eng Lu affair, &c., Wu comes to the great subject to enforce his opinions upon which he killed himself. He says that the Empresses acted wrongly in adopting the young Emperor as son to Hsien Feng, and not to Tung Chih, and he prays as the only remedy that an Edict may be issued fixing the succession upon the present Emperor's eldest son, when he shall have one, *who is to be adopted as the son of Tung Chih*. This is the point. Wu expresses his apprehension that unless the succession is clearly fixed in this way, either a son will never be adopted to Tung Chih or that if adopted he will be passed over, and the Throne left by the present Emperor to one of his other sons, if he should have any; in either of which cases the fair line of succession will be broken and Tung Chih will suffer a great wrong.

In his concluding advice on the conduct of the Government, Wu recommends that "foreigners should not be resisted on those few points upon which they insist, that the resources of the Empire may remain undiminished; and that innovation should be avoided, that posterity may enjoy the blessings of plenty."

A Decree has lately appeared in reply to this memorial, appointing a Commission of the High Officials of the Capital, to consider the question raised by Wu and report to the Throne thereon.

There can be no doubt that Wu's suicide was due to his belief that his opinions on the question of the succession, and the wrong that he believed the Emperor Tung Chih to have suffered, would not be taken into consideration unless they were emphasized by his death. Besides the letter to the Empresses, he left what is called a "Death-bed Ode," which is now going the round of the Capital and is much admired. It is beyond our power to give an adequate translation, but the following attempt is offered:—

When I turn and reflect on my past life's course,  
My sixty and eight long years,  
I hear but the chatter of empty talk,



About that for which nobody cares—  
Piety, truth. My Master's laid in his long  
last home,  
May the gods guard him who now reigns ;  
Of my schoolmates, companions, few few  
survive,  
The men of to-day my soul disdains—  
Compliant, submissive, a servile band. My  
death, where and when ?  
'Tis at Chi-chou's East Gate e'er the sun has  
arisen.

We are so frequently compelled to re-  
mark on the want of principle and the  
rapacity of Chinese officials, that we gladly  
call our readers' attention to the history  
and tragical end of a man who knew how  
to sacrifice his interests to his convictions  
—not the convictions of Western religion,  
where something may be sacrificed in the  
belief that much will be obtained, but  
those of abstract justice, admitting no side-  
considerations of future recompense.

## Law Reports.

### H.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 4th June.

Before G. FRENCH, Esq., Chief Justice.

WILLIAM HOGG v. A. A. KRAUS.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT appeared for the peti-  
tioner.

Mr. ROBINSON appeared for the defendant.

This case has been before the Court twice  
previously. On the last occasion it was  
adjourned for his Lordship to consider the  
question of the application of the Stamp Act  
in Shanghai, with reference to two unstamped  
documents which Mr. Wainwright proposed  
to use as evidence, and to which Mr. Robinson  
objected on the ground that they must be  
stamped before they could be admitted as  
evidence.

His LORDSHIP said—The question in this  
case is whether two documents which had  
been executed in England for use here and  
which had not been stamped, ought to be  
stamped under the Stamp Act of 1870, in  
order to render them receivable in evidence  
in this Court. The suit was instituted by  
the mortgagee of property in Shanghai by his  
attorney, Richard Carpenter Brown, against  
the trustee in bankruptcy of the mortgagor  
for redemption or foreclosure of the mortgaged  
property. The mortgage was executed in  
England in 1873 by the mortgagor Edward  
Jenner Hogg, and the Power of Attorney was  
also executed in England in February, 1878,  
by the mortgagee, appointing Brown his  
attorney for the purpose, among other things,  
of bringing this action. A commission has  
issued from this Court for the examination of  
witnesses in the United Kingdom on behalf  
of the plaintiff. Under that commission wit-  
nesses were examined as to the execution of  
the mortgage by the mortgagor and the  
amount of mortgage money due. Neither the  
mortgage nor the Power of Attorney were  
stamped. Upon their being tendered in evi-  
dence it was objected that they were not  
receivable in evidence inasmuch as they had  
not been stamped in accordance with the Stamp  
Act of 1870; and the question is whether  
they ought to be stamped in accordance  
with the provisions of that Act in order to  
render them receivable in evidence in this  
Court. If the question had been whether  
this mortgage were receivable in evidence in  
an English Court of justice, I think there  
would be no doubt that it would be required  
to be stamped as required by the Stamp  
Act of 1870. Wright v. The Commissioners  
of Inland Revenue, 25 L.J. Reports, N.S.  
Exchequer 49, is an authority to the  
effect that under the Stamp Act of  
13 and 14 Victoria, chapter 97, a stamp  
duty is payable in England on conveyances  
executed in England of land situated abroad.  
There, the land was situated in Australia,  
and it was held that the Stamp Act of  
1850 applied. Then, does this mortgage  
require to be stamped in accordance with  
the provision of the Act of 1870 in order  
to render it receivable in evidence in  
this Court? I think not. It seems to me  
that the 16th section of the Act of 1870  
applies only to Courts of Civil Jurisdiction in

any part of the United Kingdom. The  
Act imposes terms upon which a document  
which ought to have been stamped or  
which was insufficiently stamped, could be  
properly stamped and admitted as evidence,  
and those terms, it seems to me,  
cannot be carried out here. The Imperial  
legislature could, if it had thought fit, have  
extended the provisions of that act expressly  
here, but it has not done so; and as the  
words of the Act confine its application to  
Courts of Justice in the United Kingdom,  
and as the terms prescribed by the Act for  
rendering unstamped or insufficiently stamped  
documents admissible in evidence cannot be  
complied with here, I think the objection  
fails. I am of the same opinion, on the same  
grounds with reference to the Power of  
Attorney, that the objection as to its non-  
admissibility in evidence because it is not  
stamped fails. Under these circumstances,  
the only question is now as to the terms of  
the decree.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said that was so.

Mr. ROBINSON—An ordinary decree for re-  
demption or foreclosure.

His LORDSHIP—Then you don't ask for an  
order for sale?

Mr. ROBINSON replied that he and the  
trustees had gone through the property with  
the deed, and they were of opinion that  
a sale would not be for the good of the estate.

His LORDSHIP said under those circum-  
stances there would be the ordinary decree  
for redemption or foreclosure.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he would draft  
a decree, and he and Mr. Robinson would  
submit it to his Lordship in chambers.

Mr. ROBINSON asked if he was to understand  
by his Lordship's decision that conveyances  
executed in England, relating to land out here,  
did not require to be stamped for the purpose  
of being used in evidence in this Court.

His LORDSHIP replied that his decisions was  
given *secundum materiam subjectam*.

5th June.

### In Bankruptcy.

Re ALFRED ADOLPHUS KRAUS.

Mr. MYBURGH appeared for the petitioning  
creditors.

Mr. ROBINSON appeared on behalf of the  
debtor.

This was a petition filed on behalf of the  
Oriental Bank Corporation to adjudicate  
Alfred Adolphus Kraus a bankrupt.

The petition was as follows:—

1.—That Alfred Adolphus Kraus of Shang-  
hai, in the Empire of China, resides and until  
lately carried on business in co-partnership  
with Charles Shaw, Christopher Nicholson,  
and William Woolley King, within the juris-  
diction of this Honourable Court, that is to  
say, at Shanghai aforesaid.

2.—That the said Alfred Adolphus Kraus  
is indebted to your petitioners in the sum of  
Tls. 46,531.95, being the balance due to your  
petitioners in respect of Bills of Exchange  
purchased, loans and advances granted, and  
interest, after deducting the assessed value of  
certain securities held by your petitioners.

3.—That your petitioners do not nor does  
any person or persons on their behalf hold  
any security on the debtor's estate or any part  
thereof for the payment of the said sum of  
Tls. 46,531.95.

4.—That the said Alfred Adolphus Kraus  
committed an Act of Bankruptcy within six  
months before the presentation of this petition.

5.—That the Act of Bankruptcy committed  
by the said Alfred Adolphus Kraus was that  
on the 28th April, 1879, the said Alfred  
Adolphus Kraus presented his petition to  
this Court and therein alleged that he was  
unable to pay his debts and was desirous of  
instituting proceedings for liquidation of his  
affairs by arrangement or composition with  
his creditors, and therein submitted to the  
jurisdiction of this Court in the matter of such  
proceedings.

6.—That your petitioners on or about the  
29th February, 1879, received a notice to  
attend a general meeting of the creditors  
of the above-named Alfred Adolphus Kraus,  
summoned to be held at No. 10, Yangtze  
Road, Shanghai, at two o'clock in the after-  
noon of the fourteenth day of May, one  
thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine.

7.—That such general meeting was held  
at the place and time aforesaid, and your  
petitioners represented by John Robertson,

their manager at Shanghai, were present  
thereat, in pursuance of the said notice.

8.—That the general meeting of the four-  
teenth day of May one thousand eight hun-  
dred and seventy-nine was adjourned to the  
twenty-first day of May, one thousand eight  
hundred and seventy-nine, in accordance with  
the provisions of the said Act.

9.—That at the adjourned general meeting  
which was held at No. 10, Yangtze Road  
aforesaid, at two o'clock in the afternoon, your  
petitioners, represented as aforesaid, being  
present thereat, the statutory majority of the  
creditors then assembled resolved *inter alia*  
that the affairs of the said Alfred Adolphus  
Kraus should be administered in bankruptcy,  
but no resolution for the adjournment of the  
said meeting was passed.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that  
on proof of the requisites in that behalf on  
the hearing of this petition, the said Alfred  
Adolphus Kraus may be adjudicated a  
Bankrupt.

Mr. MYBURGH said he understood his learned  
friend Mr. Robinson would admit the allega-  
tions in the petition except the second para-  
graph, and in regard to that the debtor wished  
to have particulars of the assessment of the  
security held by the petitioners—the debtor  
merely wished to know how the sum of  
Tls. 46,531.95 was arrived at.

His LORDSHIP—You have mentioned the  
sum in general terms, and the debtor wants  
full particulars.

Mr. ROBINSON—We want to know the mode  
of the assessment and how they arrive at the  
sum of Tls. 46,531.95.

His LORDSHIP—Will you admit that the  
petitioners are creditors for an amount not  
less than £50.

Mr. ROBINSON said he would admit that sub-  
ject to being supplied with particulars here-  
after, which he presumed was sufficient for the  
purpose of Mr. Myburgh to adjudicate the  
debtor a bankrupt.

His LORDSHIP thought the admission had  
better come from the debtor himself.

Mr. ROBINSON replied that the debtor was  
present and would make the admissions.

In answer to his Lordship, Mr. Kraus  
admitted that the petitioners were creditors  
of his to an amount not less than £50, and he  
had also admitted that he had filed a declara-  
tion in the Court admitting his inability to  
pay his debts.

It was then arranged that the petitioner  
should supply the debtor with the particulars  
of the assessment of the security held by them  
before noon on Monday.

Mr. MYBURGH on these facts, asked for an  
order of adjudication to be granted.

Mr. ROBINSON, on behalf of the debtor, had  
no objection to offer to the order being  
granted.

His LORDSHIP—The order will be granted.

Mr. MYBURGH—And the Registrar, I pre-  
sume, will be trustee, until a trustee is  
appointed by the creditors.

His LORDSHIP—Yes.

Mr. MYBURGH explained that at the ad-  
journed meeting of the creditors of Mr.  
Kraus, held under the liquidation proceed-  
ings, a resolution was passed, resolving that  
his affairs should be administered in bank-  
ruptcy, and he (Mr. Myburgh) was entrusted  
with the registration of the resolution. From  
inadvertence he had omitted to register it, for-  
getting that he had been entrusted with its  
registration, and he now applied for leave to  
register it. Strictly speaking, he said, it  
was not necessary to register a resolution  
of this kind, but if his Lordship granted  
him leave to do so he should then move that  
the statement of affairs, and the proofs and  
proxies produced in the liquidation proceedings  
be transferred to the bankruptcy proceedings.  
He produced authorities in support of his  
application.

Mr. ROBINSON offered no objection to the  
application.

His LORDSHIP granted leave for Mr. My-  
burgh to register the resolution, and also  
made an order whereby the documents re-  
ferred to were transferred from the liquidation  
to the bankruptcy proceedings; and the costs  
of the petitioner and debtor were ordered to  
be paid out of the estate.

The next question was the selection of a  
day for the first meeting of the creditors under  
the bankruptcy to be held.

Mr. ROBINSON pointed out the usual notice  
would have to appear in the *London Gazette*

and in the local paper which was considered out here the same as the *London Gazette*. He said that Mr. Charles Shaw, one of the largest creditors, resided in London, and on behalf of the debtor he suggested that the meeting should be held about the first week in August—say the 10th of that month.

In answer to his Lordship, Mr. ROBINSON said Mr. Charles Shaw had carried on an independent business in London and Liverpool, and his affairs were being wound up under liquidation. Mr. Charles Shaw was also a co-partner with Mr. Krauss, and was a creditor of Mr. Krauss to the amount of about Tls. 140,000 on an account stated and settled some time ago. In April, from the 14th to the 28th, Mr. Shaw was notified of the liquidation of the affairs of Mr. Krauss, and a telegram had been sent him informing him that the creditors had decided to proceed in bankruptcy. His object was to protect the debtor and avoid the possibility of Mr. Shaw stepping in and interfering with any decision the creditors might come to, because his vote in the election of a trustee could turn the scale one way or the other.

Mr. MYBURGH wished to avoid delay. His clients wanted the matter pushed on and settled as soon as possible, and he thought Mr. Shaw had had time to send out a Power of Attorney.

In answer to further questions by his Lordship, Mr. ROBINSON said nearly all the creditors resided or were represented in Shanghai. The amount due to unsecured creditors was about Tls. 77,000, exclusive of Mr. Shaw's claim. Mr. Shaw had some security, but he thought it was likely to be questioned by the other creditors. So far as the debtor was concerned, the sooner the meeting was held the better it would be for him, and he did not care how soon it was held so long as it was put on record that he had attempted to protect Mr. Shaw. The proceedings could not be put through too fast for Mr. Krauss.

His LORDSHIP said there was an interim trustee, and he could not see how the creditors would suffer by a delay.

Mr. ROBINSON—There is an interim trustee, but that does not matter much. In reality there are no assets to take possession of. There is some landed property, but that is mortgaged.

His LORDSHIP—Do you think, Mr. Myburgh, that the creditors would be prejudiced by delay?

Mr. MYBURGH replied that he could only speak for one creditor, and he had no further objection to offer to a delay than the one of general inconvenience.

His LORDSHIP suggested that the meeting should be held on the 24th July, and ultimately that date was decided upon.

#### MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 3rd June.

Before the Chinese Magistrate CHEN, and R. H. MACLAY, Esq., U.S. Assessor.

#### Cruelly to a Pony.

A mafao was fined \$2.00 for driving a pony in a vehicle, when the animal was suffering from a sore beneath the yoke.

#### The "Boy" Thief.

The "boy" thief, before the Court last week, was brought up on remand, and sentenced to forty heavy blows on the hands (administered on the spot), and one month's imprisonment.

#### Damaging a Jinriksha.

A wretch was brought up for stealing the wheels, bolts, linch-pins, &c., from a jinriksha which he found at night outside the door of its owner, and sentenced to one month's cage.

#### Robbing the gods.

A thief who evinces a strong partiality for "robbing the gods," having been up on previous occasions for the same offence, was brought up for stealing certain articles in a neighbouring Joss-house, and sentenced to one month's cage.

5th June.

#### Stealing Bamboo Fencing.

Two boys, caught stealing bamboo fencing from the premises of a foreigner in Broadway, received 20 blows each on their hands, given before the Court.

#### Public Gambling.

A couple of street gamblers were brought up for playing their vocation on the Canton Road. Such a large number of these gamblers had congregated on the street that the thoroughfare had become completely obstructed. A constable, upon walking up to ascertain the cause, succeeded in arresting two, all the others taking to flight. The culprits were sentenced to 80 blows each.

#### THE WU-SHIH-SHAN TRIAL.

(From the Foochow Herald.)

#### IN HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S COURT AT FOOCHEW.

Between CHOW CHANG-KUNG, LIN KING-CHING, LOO KING-FAH, and SAT KEOK-MIN, Directors of the Tao Shan Kwan Temple situate at Wu-shih-shan, in the City of Foochow, in the Empire of China, and

The Reverend JOHN R. WOLFE, a clerk in Holy Orders, residing at Foochow aforesaid, who is also sued on behalf of the English Church Missionary Society,—Defendant.

(Continued.)

Ninth Day, 10th May, 1879.

On the re-opening of the Court, Counsel for defendant explained that his client had found the old Agreement of 1850 in the mission archives, and, with the permission of his Lordship, he would like to put in the document as evidence.

Mr. HAYLLAR agreed to the document being received *quantum valeat*.

His LORDSHIP was of opinion that the agreement in question would on materially affect the suit.

Mr. HANNEN then asked to be allowed to tender as evidence four receipts for rent,—the last one being for the quarter ended 31st December, 1878.

Counsel for plaintiffs then rose to address the Court on the entire case. There were three or four points to which he desired to call his Lordship's attention. Why did his learned friend try to exclude evidence on Chinese law? There was nothing more clear than that foreign law should govern this suit. The case for the plaintiffs was in a nutshell, and if the evidence on Chinese law which had been put in on behalf of his clients could not be met by his learned friend, he (Mr. Hayllar) could form no idea as to why Mr. Hannen was there. I fully expected, continued Mr. Hayllar, that my learned friend would have produced evidence to refute what I have brought forward. I assumed that what I have alleged was in the minds of the parties when they made the Agreement of 1857. It certainly was uppermost in the minds of my clients, and they were not now going to give defendant by a side-wind what they had refused to give him in reality. Mr. Wolfe was, on his own showing, active in getting property. It is not likely therefore that he approached this subject in complete ignorance of the Chinese law and custom. Mr. Wolfe must have known perfectly well that the agreements between the Chinese priest and Messieurs Welton and Fearnley would not inure to his benefit. He must also have known that it was a matter of impossibility trying to buy the Blind Man's Temple. He certainly found that he could not get it by means of the promissory note. Afterwards the defendant received from the directors of the temple an agreement headed "An Agreement of Rent," and under the circumstances he must have drawn an inevitable conclusion that it gave him nothing beyond a tenancy from year to year. Referring to Mr. Consul Carroll's despatch, the learned Counsel asked, how could Mr. Carroll know anything about an annual tenancy unless through Mr. Wolfe? And he could only know it through Mr. Wolfe being alarmed at what had happened to the priest. Mr. Wolfe was no doubt at that period trying to get an annual tenancy; and all he could hope to obtain from the Chinese authorities was a tenancy from year to year. Mr. Han-

nen had, by his objections, endeavoured to shut out all evidence of custom. I should have been very glad of Mr. Wolfe's evidence on the other side. I have endeavoured to be very fair and open in this case; but my learned friend has shut out many of my despatches. The genuineness of these despatches cannot be impugned. I thought these documents formed the very best evidence, but my learned friend has proved me ignorant. I would have been very glad to have laid before your Lordship all the despatches, because I think the truth of this case lies in them. The fact that the agreement of 1876 is not recorded in the land register at the Consulate proves that it had not a permanent character. My learned friend pointed out certain discrepancies between the evidence of the Prefect and that of the present Haukwan District Magistrate as to whether a Chinese lease was made out in duplicate or not. Now, the evidence given by these two mandarins was the result of careful investigation and must therefore be conclusive. My learned friend has not shaken their testimony by any counter-evidence. I am perfectly indifferent as to your Lordship asking any person in this Court whether these officials were not the proper persons to give evidence. Their position is too high to admit of their giving false testimony—it would soon be known throughout the country and they would be ruined. My learned friend has finally rested his case on natural justice. I am anxious to meet him on his own ground. I have shown your Lordship the steps by which what is called a Missionary riot is brought about. I have shown you how a patient people pile up their grievances to bring them forth at last in one final burst of indignation. The literary element is very strong in Foochow. The history of Wu-shih-shan is recorded by inscriptions on the rocks twelve hundred years old. Before 1850 only two foreigners (Mr. Canting, a merchant, and Mr. Morrison, a consular officer) had been allowed to reside in the temple. Temples are no doubt desirable places to reside in, and up to 1850 the Chinese did not object to the presence of foreigners at Wu-shih-shan; but in that year two gentlemen, whose calling was a mystery to the people, wandered into the city. It never entered into the minds of the literati that these two strangers were the *avant couriers* of a Missionary stream. The priests of the temple gave these two foreigners (Messieurs Welton and Jackson) permission to dwell in one of their sacred buildings. The gods were removed, and permission given to alter the interior of the place so as to suit the requirements of the foreign guests. These two Missionaries kept faith with the temple people, I believe. But their successors began in course of time to treat the temple officials in a different way. Houses existing in 1850 were subsequently converted into a different kind of structure. Then, later on, the Missionary interest became a subject of treaty. Now this Article (Article 8 of the Tientsin Treaty) is very remarkable in its wording. It reads:—"The Christian religion, as professed by Protestants or Roman Catholics, inculcates the practice of virtue, and teaches man to do as he would be done by. Persons teaching it or professing it, therefore, shall alike be entitled to the protection of the Chinese authorities; nor shall any such peaceably pursuing their calling, and not offending against the laws, be persecuted or interfered with." Now, the Chinese are always told that the Missionaries are very excellent people and that they come to this country to do good. But under this article of treaty the Missionaries up to 1871 certainly assumed to themselves more than the privileges of the ancient Roman citizen. In the front was the Missionary with his treaty; in the rear the force of a mighty Empire, ready at a moment's notice to quell any disturbance. Under such adverse conditions the native authorities were timid, the Missionaries bold. The authorities were, it is true, sometimes incensed, and even ventured to remonstrate, but their remonstrances were usually snubbed. The Chinese mind and temper will bear a great deal before it is forced into any hostile step against a foreigner, much less a Missionary. What then are we to think of those who provoke them? The defendant and his brother Missionaries find themselves in a place they like, and naturally too, for it is a beautiful site—as may be said of all temples. Therefore, forsooth, this public property, and the rights of thousands of people, are to be

sacrificed to the demands of these gentlemen! In this case the foreigner had done that which no Chinaman dare do. He had tampered with the old priest in charge of the temple and had coaxed him into making false documents. The defendant did not seem to care what became of the poor old man. He was utterly regardless of the fate of this poor old heathen priest, although he must have known that these transactions would bring ruin upon him. Referring to his cross-examination of Mr. Wolfe, the learned Counsel said that he did not regret one of the questions put to the witness, nor the severity of cross-examination as a whole. Mr. Wolfe's evidence was completely shifty—*non mi recordo* being the burden of it. Mr. Wolfe had said in evidence that he knew nothing of any negotiations having taken place with the high authorities in England in 1878, as stated in the 24th paragraph of the petition. I am sorry to say that Mr. Wolfe's statement is not quite true. It seemed from Mr. Stewart's evidence yesterday, that an actual offer had been made by Ting Futai to purchase the property, that the subject matter of this proposal had been referred by Mr. Sinclair to the Home authorities, and that Mr. Sinclair had been in personal communication with Mr. Wolfe in respect of these negotiations. We find in this at least some inaccuracy, and this is characteristic of Mr. Wolfe's evidence throughout. Again, Mr. Wolfe produced his minute book in proof of his attempt to purchase the Blind Man's Temple. Why did he not produce similar evidence as to the other transactions? Mr. Wolfe is in a dilemma as to whether the \$400 transaction in respect of the Blind Man's Temple ever took the form of an agreement. The fact that Mr. Wolfe tried to buy this temple is no proof that there were not other designs in his mind. Not only was the defendant anxious to get rid of these poor blind men, whose midnight orgies disturbed his peace of mind, but he also endeavored to get rid of those who were not blind. Mr. Wolfe has stated that the reason why he did not pay the priest the \$400 on account of the Blind Man's Temple was because he thought he might fail in the purchase of this particular property; but he does not appear to have entertained any doubt of success in the attempt to purchase the whole property. In comparing the statements of the Buddhist priest and Mr. Wolfe, I must say that the palm lies with the Buddhist, and the truth lies with him too. Mr. Consul Carroll would never, in his despatch to the Chinese authorities, have alluded to the priest as "an innocent man" had he not been satisfied that the man's conduct was strictly proper. With regard to the promissory note for \$500, the learned Counsel condemned it as an usurious transaction, and asked, where the natural justice on which his learned friend relied came in? The natural justice was with the plaintiffs! The fact of the priest having absconded made this promissory note rather a ticklish document. After the priest absconded, Mr. Wolfe did not pay the rent till he was ordered to do so by the Consul. The existence of the promissory note came out through the rent not being paid. Mr. Wolfe then referred the matter for the first time to the Consul. In was then, by friendly intercession of the Consul, that another agreement of rent was drawn up, against which Mr. Wolfe insinuates that the words about continuing to hire the premises were left out. Mr. Wolfe at this time, on his own showing, knew sufficient of the language to be able to read a Chinese document with the aid of his teacher; he admitted in evidence that he generally read his Chinese documents. Where, then, was the absence of fair dealing on the part of the plaintiffs? The transactions of Mr. Wolfe with the priest and others were surreptitious and offensive to the native gentry and authorities. Alluding to the Mission House erected on the site of the bungalow which was accidentally burned down in 1870, the learned Counsel said—Mr. Wolfe has himself admitted that had he been here at the time he would not have put up that building. Referring to the ruined college, the learned Counsel maintained that defendant had built on ground to which he had no legal right, but which he now professes to regard as included in the lease of 1867; but Mr. Wolfe did not make any inquiry, as he should have done. Had he inquired into the matter, it probably would not have suited his purpose. Mr. Stewart was

burning with anxiety to be cross-examined yesterday, but I decided that as his evidence was so favorable to my view of these transactions, it would be perfectly useless to cross-examine him. Mr. Stewart stated in evidence, that he got permission from Mr. Sinclair to build—provided there was opposition from the gentry. Opposition did come, Mr. Stewart was requested to discontinue building, and declined,—thereby breaking a solemn promise. Mr. Sinclair knew the signs of coming danger, and had Mr. Stewart acted up to his promise much trouble and violence would probably have been avoided. Mr. Stewart's contention was, that he was doing only inside work; but allowing this, the fact of his going on with doors and windows in opposition to the Consul's request to stop the work, led to the Chinese destroying a building which was theirs and which they had a perfect right to deal with as they liked,—only they took the unfortunate form of doing it by violence. I do not attempt to justify that act; it is a pity, but it is what every one must have known would happen. Ting Futai was also well aware of the coming danger, and made a magnificent offer of an exchange of premises. But in face of this, the defendants went on with the new building. Now, in view of these facts, I do not think my learned friend has any right to appeal to natural justice. He is anxious to have the case dealt with on principles of natural justice; but it really stands on foreign law, and there are one or two points yet to be noticed. What sort of position, it may be asked, does this Missionary Society take up? It is a shifting body of subscribers. Should Mr. Wolfe leave this place, who is to be his successor? The plaintiffs may like the man with whom they agree to let a house, but they are not bound to approve his successor. For instance, the Chinese have the utmost confidence in the good faith of the English Government. The English Consul occupies a temple at Wushih-shan. That place has been kept in good faith. But with the mission property it is quite different. The Chinese gave Mr. Wolfe a document which was intended to be an annual lease; that gentleman had not kept faith, and therefore the plaintiffs could not be expected to make a contract with anybody to follow him. Missionary Societies should not enjoy higher privileges than other foreign associations. The lease of 1867 was a personal contract with Mr. Wolfe, and therefore the clear idea is that the rights granted under that agreement should lapse whenever Mr. Wolfe leaves the country. The words, round which the battle rages, "May not be let to anybody else," are not to be found in English law; the words are utterly unknown. His learned friend had, in his reading of the lease, endeavored to import the word "resume." But according to the reading of the case that his learned friend wanted he was entirely out of Court. On English law and natural justice I ask your Lordship for a declaration of my clients' rights. The form of decree would, I apprehend, if in my clients' favor, depend upon one of three points. If your Lordship decides on Chinese law in our favor, then I apprehend the non-acceptance of rent for nine months would be the foundation for an order or decree that the lease had ceased. If your Lordship decides this case by English law, in favor of the plaintiffs, the defendant would of course hold to the end of the year if your Lordship could find a date. This is a case for a declaration of rights, and I may say that any suggestion on the part of your Lordship would have the greatest weight with my clients.

The CHIEF-JUSTICE asked Mr. Hayllar, how he could grant relief under the Agreement of 1866?

The learned Counsel replied that he did not ask for any. The first prayer of the petition might be struck out.

His LORDSHIP put another question as to the alleged right of way.

Mr. HAYLLAR replied that he did not offer any evidence upon it.

This closed the hearing, and his Lordship remarked that having regard to the importance of the case he would reserve judgment. His Lordship proposed to send his judgment to Mr. Consul Sinclair, by whom it would be read to the parties concerned.

Mr. HANNEN asked, if there would be any objection on the part of his Lordship to a copy of the judgment being handed to himself and his learned friend as quickly as pos-

sible after the judgment had been issued. No doubt the formal judgment would have to be read here, but it would be very convenient if they could have copies framed prior to the formal reading.

His LORDSHIP promised to consider the matter.

## Extracts.

### THE NEXT BIG SCHEME.

(The World.)

There is a very pretty scheme on foot in Paris just now for floating a Darien Canal Company, which is to do for the Atlantic and Pacific what the Suez Canal did for the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. Madame Ratazzi and her relations, the Napoleon Wysses, are said to be interested in it, at least as well-wishers, and their good wishes ought to bring a blessing to any undertaking. The engineers are to cut clean through the isthmus and unite the oceans; the rest *va sans dire*—it would revolutionise the trade of the world. They have obtained a concession from the local Government, and are only awaiting the result of a congress, to be held next May, at the Geographical Society of Paris, to begin operations by putting their shares in the market. M. de Lesseps will preside, and the congress will sit in judgment on this and an alternative French scheme, the piercing of the continent, by way of the Lake of Nicaragua, some few degrees farther north. This is the project of a certain M. Blanchet, who worked under M. de Lesseps at Suez, and who has been maturing the idea of a mightier work than his master's for many years. He is a declared enemy, not only of the Darien plan in question, but of all other Darien plans; and there have been many of them. He declares that, in spite of appearances on the map, the American continent cannot be pierced at that point, on any estimate of outlay likely to come within the means of shareholders who expect a return on their money. His Nicaraguan scheme, he maintains, is cheaper, as being more feasible according to the configuration of the ground. He has found a number of influential people ready to take him at his word; a Nicaraguan company is in course of formation; chiefly with French capital; a Nicaraguan concession has been obtained, and M. Blanchet, like the others, only awaits the verdict of the congress, as to which he seems thoroughly confident, to set to work.

The Napoleon Wysses are said to be moving heaven and earth to get the congress to pronounce for their project, and they are a powerful clan. M. de Lesseps is believed to be in some danger of losing his freedom of judgment on the question through female influence. He is peculiarly susceptible to the fascinations and flatteries of pretty women of the world, and there are many such specially retained on one side of the case. His good word would be almost enough to float the Darien or any other scheme. He, however, wants to be altogether out of it as an advocate, and he has called the congress as a judge. He has had enough of canal-making and enough of glory. With all this it may be thought he can have no weak side; but the Darienites have found one—a horror of canal-locks. There are no locks at Suez; it is a level passage from sea to sea. 'Why should there be locks in any other maritime canal?' says M. de Lesseps. 'Why, indeed?' say the Darienites; and they accordingly propose to drive their channel for miles through the solid rock. The 'Nicaraguans' have another answer: 'Darien is not Suez; it is rock instead of sand; elevated ground instead of land on the sea-level. To cut sheer down to the sea-level, through the Cordilleras, would be a labour of Hercules. It would cost a thousand millions of francs. There must be locks, then, even at Darien; and since locks there must be, it is better to make them at Nicaragua, where the ground is more suitable for their formation.' 'Granted,' says M. de Lesseps, 'if only the must is absolute: there is no lock plan so good as the one for Nicaragua; but the congress alone can settle the question.' Here, then, is the turning-point.

In support of their contention that there must be locks, the Nicaraguans point to the fact that all the schemes hitherto proposed, even for Darien, that have borne the test of



serious examination, have included this arrangement. At the isthmus the two oceans are separated by a great ridge miles in breadth, the tapering point of the Cordillera range. You must carry the water over this or through it; the first is tremendously difficult, the last nearly impossible. The most plausible Darien scheme, that of Selfridge the American, provides for no fewer than twenty-two locks, and even with this there is to be a great ship-tunnel, of such immense height and width that the work at Mont Cenis would be a mere sewer to it, all wrought foot by foot out of the rock. You would never come to the end of such an undertaking, it is argued, except by coming to an end of the patience of your shareholders and the gullibility of the public. A M. de Gogorza did, indeed, propose to do without the tunnel; but it was only by sinking a channel in the rock deep enough to hold the two towers of Notre Dame piled one on the other. The very Pharaohs would have winced at such a labour. No matter what your proposal of a channel by Darien, therefore, it is held to be vitiated by the nature of the ground. If you carry it over the rock by locks, you have still the rock to work in; if you carry it through by tunnels or an open cutting, you are almost overtasking the capacities of man.

Now for the alternative Nicaraguan scheme of M. Blanchet. The neck of land is thicker there; but the cutting through it involves far less labour, for the work is more than three parts done by Nature herself. Look on the map, and it will be seen that there is a large Lake of Nicaragua in the middle of it, and that a river, the San Juan, flows from this lake to the Atlantic Ocean. Here then, with a slight diversion of the mouth of the river, so as to bring the entry to San Juan del Norte, is your canal ready made. Your ship leaves the Atlantic Ocean for the river, the river for the lake, and crossing the lake there is but a mere wall of land to separate it from the Pacific on the other side, which wall is to be pierced at Port Brito to form the canal proper, nearly all the rest being natural route. The route, however, will bear improvement; and this, says M. Blanchet, can easily be effected by flooding the San Juan valley from the lake, so as practically to extend the broad lake route still farther towards the ocean. The lake is some thirty-two metres above the ocean-level, and fourteen locks will be required to regulate the various depths and to carry the canal-waters properly from sea to sea. The estimated cost is 190,000,000 fr., or within ten millions of the estimated cost of Suez. Double it for eventualities—and they had to do something more than that in Egypt—and we have a total of about 15,000,000. These are the main issues of the great argument which is to be held in Paris on the 15th May, and following days, weeks, or months before the savants of the world. Invitations are being sent to all countries, and some of the English ones are already in hand. The geographers, the engineers, the financiers, and the friends of humanity may all find their account in it; but it is perhaps most taking to consider it in its financial aspect. Certain drawing-rooms of Paris are now perfect nests of stockjobbing intrigue on behalf of one of the projects; which, though it may not result in the union of two oceans, may reasonably be expected to yield diamonds for a good many women and snug offices for a good many men. The idea makes a very strong appeal to patriotic sentiment; there is a general feeling that 'it can be done, and France ought to do it.'

Paris, 12th April.

### Clippings.

M. Corenwinder, writing on the Bananas, states that the total sugar in this fruit when ripe and sound exceeds 20 per cent., three-fourths of which are crystallisable. When over-ripe the total sugar is reduced to from 15 to 14 per cent., whilst the non-crystallisable sugar rises to 11 or 12, thus being not merely relatively but positively increased.—*Comptes Rendus*.

The *Celtic Monarch*, a new iron screw steamer for the China and Japan trade, was launched at Home just before the departure of the mail. The following is from *Mitchell's Maritime Register*:—On Monday last the *Celtic Monarch*, built by Messrs. Whigham,

Richardson and Co., at Walker-on-the-Tyne, for the Royal Exchange Shipping Company to the order of Messrs. Patton, of London, made a very successful half-loaded trip from the Tyne to sea. She attained a speed of 10½ knots per hour. She subsequently proceeded the same evening to London to load for China and Japan.

The German steamer *Electra*, with arrived at Hongkong on the 30th ult. from Hamburg via the usual ports of call, is a new steamer belonging to the German Steamship Company of Hamburg. She is a craft of 1,161 tons register, and is to all appearance a well-built vessel, and well adapted for the China trade as a first class cargo boat. Her length is 265 feet over all. She was built at the yard of Messrs. Dobie & Co. of Govan, and her engines are by Messrs. Inglis & Co. of Glasgow. She attained a speed of 11 knots on her trial trip, and averaged 9½ knots during the run out. Accommodation is provided for twelve first and two second class passengers.—*China Mail*.

A singular case of restitution by a burglar is reported. About four years ago the premises of Mr. Gibbons, a corndealer, near Alton, were broken into, and a cash-box containing 155l was stolen, but no trace of the thief was discovered. A few days ago Mr. Gibbons received a package from Australia, which was found to contain the long-missing cash-box. In it was a letter stating that the writer had committed the robbery under the pressure of misfortune. With the aid of the money he had made his way to Australia, where, by good use of the surplus and by honest industry, he had made for himself a competency. The box contained the original amount stolen, with interest at the rate of 15 per cent., and the writer, who gave no name or address, asked to be forgiven, and requested that the receipt of the package might be acknowledged in the *Melbourne Argus*.

The *British Trade Journal*, in commenting on a lecture lately delivered at a Working Men's College at Home, very truthfully urges that "Mr. Harrison (the lecturer) might have shown some more practical and common-sense course for the working man—so called. He urges the advisability of giving a 'knowledge of things of the world' instead of merely language and literature, but to these essentials might have been added the precept that workmen should thoroughly master their particular industry, and learn to take pride and pleasure in their especial work, as well as feast their minds with philosophy, poetry, and general history. The complaint of the present day is that so few workmen (in Great Britain) care to master all the grades necessary to make them thoroughly competent in their peculiar department of trade, so that when he becomes a tradesman on his own account a workman has no general knowledge of his trade. The axiom that if a thing is worth doing at all it is worth doing well is lost sight of, and a tendency is growing to do as little instead of as much as possible. Technical knowledge is much wanted. Ask the glazier how glass is made; in most cases he will not know. Which is the more important for him to learn—how the material he daily uses is manipulated, or the date when William the Conqueror came to this country?"

American papers energetically urge that the United States should be well represented at the Sydney Exhibition, and point out that Australia is a most promising field for American goods. Among other items, they state that the woods of Australia are all hard; therefore, American soft woods could be advantageously sent out, not only sawed up into boards, &c., but made into window-sashes, casings, doors, &c. That as a return commodity cargoes of the finest Australian Cannel coal are sent to San Francisco, and can very well be increased, at the price of \$9 per ton. Many American manufacturers, it is said, make agricultural implements for English shippers, and put English stamps upon them, for the purpose of sending them to Australia. The same practice is said to be true in regard to some cotton goods made in the States for English houses for the same trade. The prices are said to be lower, and the article is often remarkably good. But one secret of the successful American competition in manufactured goods has been let out by the sudden collapse of the Fall River Cotton

Mills, which had been doing a large export trade to this country, cutting under the British manufacturers by selling goods below their cost price. We do not say that manufacturers of the United Kingdom have not to some extent been carrying on their trade on a similar basis—iron, to wit—but competition in foreign centres cannot long be maintained by those who try thus to secure a market. With the reduced level of wages and improvements in machinery a very small rise in values or a slight further economy in the cost of production may make the difference between prosperous or unprosperous times. A revival of the home trade would alone probably make the change for which the great manufacturing communities are longing; and a good harvest with assurance of peace would give us this.—*British Trade Journal*.

It is quite common now-a-days to hear the phrases "proof," "overproof," and "underproof" made use of to indicate the strength of spirituous liquors; but so rarely do we meet with anyone who can give us any information as to what they really mean, that, perhaps, the following may be instructive to many of your readers:—In the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, a couple of years ago, it was stated that the law defines proof spirits to be 51 degs. Fah., and requires that it shall weigh exactly 12-13th's of an equal quantity of distilled water. Now I find in a recent issue of the *Family Herald* that proof spirit was so called because in the pre-scientific age it was customary to levy duty on spirits by a rough and ready process called the "proof," which was conducted as follows:—A small heap of gunpowder was wetted with the spirit to be tested, and the wet spirit was then ignited. If the spirit was strong, the gunpowder became ignited, and flashed off very soon after the spirit was lighted; but if the spirit was weak, the water left behind it wetted the gunpowder, so that it did not catch fire. A careful investigation of the true constitution of the spirit showed that the weakest spirit capable of igniting the gunpowder had the following composition by weight:—Alcohol, 49.24; water, 50.76; and a specific gravity of 0.920. This is known as proof spirit. Spirits either stronger or weaker than this are spoken of as overproof or underproof. Thus, a spirit was said to be 25 per cent. over proof if 100 measures of it would, on dilution, yield 125 measures of proof spirit. It was under proof if 100 measures only contained 75 measures of proof spirit. In these days, though the terms are still retained, the estimates are made by the hydrometer. It will readily be seen, by comparing these figures with those of the former statement, that the two very nearly agree in their density at proof strength, and this, perhaps, many will consider to be worth knowing.

### THE FASTEST STRAMER IN THE WORLD.

The trial has just taken place at Long Reach of the first-class torpedo boat recently constructed by Messrs. Yarrow and Co., of Poplar, for the Admiralty. Three runs were made with the tide and three against it, in the usual way, with the following results:—

| Runs.     | Time. | Knots per hour. | Knots per hour.             |
|-----------|-------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| First...  | 2 37  | = 22.93         |                             |
| Second... | 3 2   | = 19.78         |                             |
| Third...  | 2 33  | = 23.53         | Mean of first pair = 21.35  |
| Fourth... | 2 55  | = 20.51         |                             |
| Fifth...  | 2 30  | = 24.00         |                             |
| Sixth...  | 2 56  | = 20.45         | Mean of second pair = 22.05 |
|           |       |                 | Mean of third pair = 22.23  |

Mean of means, calculated by the Admiralty method, 21.93 knots, which is equal to 25½ statute miles. The load carried during the trial was 6½ tons, which represents the weight of torpedoes, gear, coals, &c. The steam pressure was 124 lbs. throughout, and during the four first runs the engines were slightly eased, which accounts for the last pair of runs giving the best result. It was found that at speeds of between 17 and 19 knots the vibration of the boat was considerable, but when running over 20 knots it entirely disappeared, so much so, in fact, that it was quite possible to write legibly on the stern immediately over the screw. This craft is of precisely the same dimensions as those already built for the English Government, which on their trials have given speeds varying from 18 to 19 knots; and this little steamer, which is only 86 feet long, stands unrivalled as the fastest vessel in the world.—*Daily Telegraph*, 27th March, 1879.

## EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1879-80.

| TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c. |             |             |           |         |           | TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.—Continued. |             |             |            |         |            |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|---------|------------|
| VESSEL'S NAME.        | DATE        | CLEARED FOR | BLACK.    | GREEN.  | TOTAL.    | VESSEL'S NAME.                   | DATE        | CLEARED FOR | BLACK.     | GREEN.  | TOTAL.     |
|                       |             |             | Piculs.   | Piculs. | Piculs.   |                                  |             |             | Piculs.    | Piculs. | Piculs.    |
| Glencoe .....         | s.s. May 24 | London      | 21,065.99 | .....   | 21,065.99 | Orestes .....                    | s.s. June 2 | London      | 17,441.26  | .....   | 17,441.26  |
| Lombardy .....        | " 27        | Odessa      | 171.10    | .....   | 171.10    | Peronia .....                    | " 2         | "           | 11,909.62  | .....   | 11,909.62  |
| Loudoun Castle ..     | " 27        | London      | 20,330.50 | .....   | 20,330.50 | Lord of the Isles ..             | " 6         | "           | 20,486.22  | .....   | 20,486.22  |
| Glenartney .....      | " 30        | "           | 17,521.47 | .....   | 17,521.46 | Radnorshire ...                  | " 6         | "           | 16,324.08  | .....   | 16,324.08  |
| Glencarn .....        | June 2      | "           | 18,226.28 | .....   | 18,226.28 |                                  |             |             |            |         |            |
| Afghan .....          | " 2         | "           | 18,770.61 | .....   | 18,770.61 | Total.....                       |             |             | 162,247.12 | .....   | 162,247.12 |

## SHANGHAI OPIUM AND SILK RETURNS FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1879.

## FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

## SILK.

|                                 | TO GREAT BRITAIN. | TO MARSEILLES AND CONTINENT. | TO AMERICA. | TO HONG-KONG, COAST PORTS, &c. | TOTAL CHINA. | JAPAN TRANSSHIPPED. | GRAND TOTAL. |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
|                                 | Bales.            | Bales.                       | Bales.      | Bales.                         | Bales.       | Bales.              | Bales.       |
| Shipped since the 1st June..... | 13                | 896                          | 55          | ..                             | 964          | ..                  | 964          |
|                                 | ..                | ..                           | ..          | ..                             | ..           | ..                  | ..           |
| Total....                       | 13                | 896                          | 55          | ..                             | 964          | ..                  | 964          |

## OPIUM

## RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 7TH JUNE, 1879.

| IMPORTED                                                                     | MALWA.  |          | PATNA.  |         | BENARES. |         | PERSIAN. |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
|                                                                              | Cheats. | Weight.  | Cheats. | Weight. | Cheats.  | Weight. | Cheats.  | Weight. |
| Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels .....                         | 1,032½  | 1,032.50 | 202     | 242.40  | 195      | 234.00  | 76       | 76.00   |
| Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board .. | ..      | ..       | ..      | ..      | ..       | ..      | ..       | ..      |
| Receiving Vessels or landed .....                                            | ..      | ..       | ..      | ..      | ..       | ..      | ..       | ..      |
| Imported direct to the shore .....                                           | ..      | ..       | ..      | ..      | ..       | ..      | ..       | ..      |
| Total.....                                                                   | 1,032½  | 1,032.50 | 202     | 242.40  | 195      | 234.00  | 76       | 76.00   |
| Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption ..  | 83      | 83.00    | 168     | 201.60  | 89       | 106.80  | ..       | ..      |

  

| Description.  | Chinkiang.  | Wuhu.       | Kiukiang.   | Hankow.     | Chefoo.     | Tientsin.   | Newchwang.  | Ningpo.     | Wenchow.    | Foochow.    | Amyoy.      | Total.      |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|               | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. | Chta. Wght. |
| RE-EXPORTED.  | 203½        | 203.50      | 75          | 75.00       | 25          | 25.00       | 18          | 18.00       | 44          | 44.00       | 33          | 33.00       |
| Malwa .....   | 14          | 16.80       | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          |
| Patna .....   | 17          | 20.40       | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          |
| Benares ..... | 6           | 6.00        | 1           | 1.00        | 5           | 5.00        | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          |
| Persian ..... | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          |
| Turkey .....  | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          |
| Total..       | 240½        | 246.70      | 76          | 76.00       | 30          | 30.00       | 28          | 30.00       | 59          | 61.00       | 33          | 33.00       |

## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

## SHANGHAI, 9TH JUNE, 1879.

**PIECE GOODS.**—During last week there was a steady demand from the River Ports for good 8½-lbs. Grey Shirtings, heavy ditto and English Drills, and notwithstanding the rapid advance in Exchange, importers of English goods have still succeeded in keeping up prices, having now therefore really attained their object of getting up quotations more on a par with Home rates; a thing which as a general rule would have been almost impossible to have done, with the but moderate demand from the River, and an almost entire absence of orders from the North. Exchange, however, at the last, is fluctuating so rapidly, that these calculations may be upset, and it is hard for importers to know what rate to count on, when their money comes in. Interest has been unusually dear amongst the Chinese, fluctuating from 15 to 36 per cent. per annum for short loans. A large sale of 15,000 pieces 8½-lbs. Grey Shirtings, Dewhurst's 3-Legs, to arrive, at £1.62, has to be noted this week. Holders of American Drills have given way, for at last seeing a chance of making large sales, they have let prices down another 5 cand., being in all a fall of 12½ to 15 cand. from the highest point; arrivals have again been heavy of these goods, and stocks are steadily increasing. The Sheetings still coming in go off freely as before. The news from Tientsin and Chefoo is very unsatisfactory, grave fears are still entertained that the want of rains will cause most serious damage to the crops, and meantime buyers for these Ports are holding off. At Newchwang, there appears to be at last a chance of revival in trade, common 8½-lbs. Grey Shirtings, T-Cloths and American Sheetings by last accounts were selling fairly well, and although quotations for American Drills had fallen heavily, yet business seemed possible in them. Japan is still taking a fair quantity of Shirtings from us. Woollens have been dull, Camlets being again lower.

**GREY SHIRTINGS, 8½-lbs.**—Sales reported are 60,000 pieces of Dewhurst's Eagle XX at £1.75, ditto Eagle at £1.73, Tiger at £1.64½, Butterfly £1.62 to £1.63½, Eye, and Green Phoenix at £1.62½, Three-Legs (15,000) at £1.62, Blue Joss at £1.61 to £1.62, Blue Dragon at £1.61, Beaver and Red Lion at £1.60, Lion and Flag at £1.58½, Pagoda at £1.57, Red Cormorant at £1.56, Green Stag at £1.55, Horse at £1.52½, Two Lion and Peacock's Feather at £1.52, Large Eagle at £1.35 and Cat at £1.29.

For best quality there has been a steady demand, and prices are firm; medium have not been so much wanted, and common being very little in demand are somewhat low; at Auction prices for these latter are the same as last week, a few being wanted for Japan and Newchwang. To-day prices however fell 2 to 4 candareens.

**7-lbs. and 6-lbs.** are seldom asked for, and prices would have to be lower to effect sales, the transactions reported are a few Phoenix and Pillar at £1.24, 1,000 pieces Red Pheasant at £1.33½ and 1,000 pieces Lie Eagle 6-lbs. at £1.10.

**9.12-lbs.**—Sales reported are 7,000 pieces of Empress at £2.42½, Stag EFD at £2.20, Hand and Branch at £2.15, Three Fish at £2.12, Blue Joss and Red Joss at £2.10. This weight has been fairly saleable during the week, whilst holders being anxious to meet the demand, have given way 1 to 2 candareens in some cases.

**T-CLOTHS, 7-lbs.**—Sales are 18,000 pieces of Anchor at £1.40, Dollar at £1.34, Silver Scroll at £1.31, Gold Dragon £1.27, Princess S.T. Three-Cash at £1.22, Red Stag at £1.18 to 1.20, Green Stag and Gold Lion at £1.17, Green Horse Head at £1.18, Horse at £1.12½, and Lion at £1.10; holders of these goods are firm, and consequently get their own prices for the moderate quantity wanted; common goods are still asked for, with none offering.

**8-lbs. and 6-lbs.**—Nothing doing; 1,000 pieces 8-lbs. Lion were sold at £1.31.

**WHITE SHIRTINGS.**—Beyond 1,500 pieces more Taiping Eagles settled at \$1.90 no sales are reported, and the demand has fallen off.

**DRILLS.**—Sales of English 14-lbs. are 5,700 pieces of Levita's Dragon at \$1.87, and ordinary Dragon at \$1.80, the market has not been active, and only low rates are offering for common quality goods, fine are out of stock. Of Dutch, 600 pieces Dragon were settled at \$2.40.

Of AMERICAN, sales are 7,500 pieces of P M C D at \$2.65, 19,500 pieces Massachusetts at \$2.60, and 2,235 pieces Spinning Woman at \$2.67½ to 2.72½, holders have at last given way, and to effect large sales have accepted the rates offering, which show another fall of 5 candareens per piece. Newchwang will take a good proportion of these purchases, and the remainder are for Tientsin and Chefoo.

**SHEETINGS.**—In English nothing has been done.

Of AMERICAN, sales are 4,000 pieces Indian Head at \$2.82½, and 2,000 pieces of Appleton at \$2.70.

Indian Head having fallen in value at Tientsin are 7½ candareens lower here; Appleton are, however, but 2½ candareens lower than the highest point, and Massachusetts being wanted for Newchwang seem likely to maintain their value; ample supplies have arrived during the week.

**JEANS.**—Of these a sale of 8-lbs. Stag chop is quoted at \$1.51, say 1,200 pieces.

**FANCY GOODS.**—Turkey Red Cambrics go off at Auction without much charge, Velvets have been wanted for Japan, 2,000 pieces of Woman chop found buyers at \$0.13½ to 0.14½, and more are wanted. In other goods but little has been stirring. Handkerchiefs are scarce, and in the hands of a few natives who keep prices up. Of Victoria Lawns 3,000 pieces were sold at \$0.64.

**WOOLLENS.**—Camlets are again generally lower, Long Ells are about the same, and Spanish Stripes show in improvement. Lastings are dull, and so are Figured Orleans.

| KIN-MING, 3rd inst.          | Scarlet.   | Dk. Blue. | Gentian.   | Lt. Gt.  | Black. | Purple. | Green.    | Orange. | Mauve. | Ash & Lav. | White. | Total Sales |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|--------|---------|-----------|---------|--------|------------|--------|-------------|
| Camlets C.P.H. p. pce. \$    | 11.10/11   | 11.71/5   | 11.34/9    | 11.51/68 | 11.50  | .....   | 12.30     | 13.00   | 11.31  | .....      | ...    | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 300        | 100       | 50         | 100      | 20     | .....   | 10        | 10      | 10     | .....      | ...    | 600         |
| Long Ells C.P.H. p. pce. \$  | 6.09/10    | 6.25/7    | 5.48       | .....    | 5.70   | 6.29    | 6.30      | 5.90    | .....  | .....      | ...    | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 500        | 60        | 20         | .....    | 20     | 60      | 40        | 20      | .....  | .....      | ...    | 720         |
| Lasting, Lion p. pce. \$     | .....      | .....     | .....      | .....    | 9.60   | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | 80          |
| Elephant p. pce. \$          | .....      | .....     | .....      | .....    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | ...         |
| S. Stripes C.P.H. p. yd. \$  | 0.48½/9.6  | .....     | .....      | .....    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | 120         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 120        | .....     | .....      | .....    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | ...         |
| E-wo, 4th inst.              |            |           |            |          |        |         |           |         |        |            |        |             |
| Camlets H.D.B. p. pce. \$    | 10.90/7½   | 11.52½    | 11.12½/17½ | 11.60    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 60         | 40        | 30         | 20       | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | 160         |
| Long Ells H.D.B. p. pce. \$  | 6.03/4     | .....     | .....      | .....    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 160        | .....     | .....      | .....    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | 160         |
| Sp. Stripes " p. yd. \$      | 0.49.8/9.9 | 0.51.4    | 0.56.8     | 0.55/5½  | 0.47.8 | .....   | 0.52.1    | .....   | .....  | 0.52½/6½   | 0.50   | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 60         | 6         | 18         | 24       | 6      | .....   | 6         | .....   | .....  | 24         | 12     | 156         |
| YUEN-FONG, 5th inst.         |            |           |            |          |        |         |           |         |        |            |        |             |
| Camlets S.S.G. p. pce. \$    | 10.80/90   | 11/11.15  | 11.00      | 11.55    | 11.20  | .....   | 12.10/12½ | 12.97½  | 10.77½ | .....      | 11.50  | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 200        | 250       | 150        | 10       | 10     | .....   | 30        | 20      | 20     | .....      | 20     | 710         |
| " G.G. per pcs. \$           | 10.87½/90  | 11.32½    | 11.02½/7½  | 11.52½/5 | .....  | .....   | .....     | 12.97½  | 11.00  | .....      | 11.50  | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 120        | 30        | 100        | 20       | .....  | .....   | .....     | 10      | 10     | .....      | 20     | 310         |
| Long Ells " per pcs. \$      | 6.11/12    | 6.15      | 5.88       | .....    | 5.60   | 6.06    | 5.97      | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 80         | 40        | 20         | .....    | 20     | 20      | 20        | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | 200         |
| S. Stripes T.T.B. p. yd. \$  | 0.51½      | 0.51/1½   | 0.56½      | .....    | 0.49½  | .....   | .....     | 0.50½   | 0.52½  | 0.50½      | 0.50½  | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | 198        | 36        | 90         | .....    | 18     | .....   | .....     | 6       | 6      | 6          | 6      | 378         |
| MISCELLANEOUS.               |            |           |            |          |        |         |           |         |        |            |        |             |
| Sp. Stripes, Tree per yd. \$ | .....      | .....     | 0.52.4/52½ | .....    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | ...         |
| Sales, pcs...                | .....      | .....     | 48         | .....    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | 48          |
| Long Ells, U.U. p. pce. \$   | 6.02½/4    | .....     | .....      | .....    | .....  | .....   | .....     | .....   | .....  | .....      | ...    | 100         |

## AUCTION SALES OF COTTON GOODS—

|                                                                                                          |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            |              |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| "King Ming."—3rd instant—                                                                                |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs.                                                                                   | Red Ram.     | Blue Ram.    | Red Lion.          | Blue Lion.         | Green Lion.   | Red Eagle.        | B. Eagle. | Gr. Eagle. | Total.       |  |  |  |
| Sales, pcs.                                                                                              | 1,500        | ...          | 1,850              | 1,300              | 1,350         | ...               | ...       | ...        | = 6,000 pcs. |  |  |  |
| GREY SHIRTINGS—7-lbs. Green Peacock at \$1.16½ to 1.16½                                                  |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 600 "      |  |  |  |
| 6-lbs. Red Lion at \$1.14½ to 1.15                                                                       |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 500 "      |  |  |  |
| T-CLOTHS—7-lbs. Green Ram at \$1.10—100 pcs.; Sun at \$1.29—100 pcs.                                     |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 200 "      |  |  |  |
| "Nie Kee."—4th instant—                                                                                  |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| TURKEY RED CAMBRICS.....                                                                                 | Sun, 2½-lbs. | Joss, 3-lbs. | Fisherman, 2½-lbs. | Bull Head, 2½-lbs. | Fish, 1½-lbs. | Elephant, 2½-lbs. |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| Sales, pcs.                                                                                              | \$1.04½/14½  | ...          | \$1.12/1.28½       | \$1.09/23½         | ...           | \$1.23½           |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| TURKEY RED T-CLOTHS—Incense 4½-lbs. at \$2.72 to 2.72½                                                   |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 150 "      |  |  |  |
| VELVETS—22-inch Woman at \$0.13.3                                                                        |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 150 "      |  |  |  |
| T-CLOTHS—9-lbs. Two-Dragon at \$1.85                                                                     |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 200 "      |  |  |  |
| 7-lbs. Gold Dragon (mildewed) at \$1.19½ to 1.20½                                                        |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 500 "      |  |  |  |
| "E-wo."—4th instant—                                                                                     |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| TURKEY RED CAMBRICS—2 to 3-lbs. \$1.09 to 1.25½                                                          |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 1,000 "    |  |  |  |
| IRISHES—Blue Dragon at \$2.62½ to 2.62½                                                                  |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 300 "      |  |  |  |
| WHITE SHIRTINGS—72-reed D D D at \$2.21                                                                  |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 400 "      |  |  |  |
| DRILLS—14-lbs. Dragon at \$1.75½                                                                         |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 240 "      |  |  |  |
| "Yuen-fong."—5th instant—                                                                                |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. House, \$1.33½ to 1.33½—5,000 pcs.                                                |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 5,000 "    |  |  |  |
| 9½-lbs. Red Man and Gun                                                                                  |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| 7-lbs. Lighthouse at \$1.18½ to 1.18½                                                                    |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 1,000 "    |  |  |  |
| WHITE SHIRTINGS—64-reed Lighthouse at \$1.60                                                             |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 1,000 "    |  |  |  |
| "Tseang-tae."—9th instant—                                                                               |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs.....                                                                               | Red Buffalo. | Green Cat.   | Red Cormorant.     | Black Cormorant.   | Gr. Cormorant | Red Lion.         | Red Ship. |            |              |  |  |  |
| Sales, pcs.                                                                                              | \$1.54½      | \$1.27       | \$1.55½            | \$1.41½            | \$1.27½       | \$1.23½           | ...       |            |              |  |  |  |
| 7-lbs. Green Cormorant at \$1.14½ to 1.15½                                                               | 750          | 500          | 500                | 500                | 500           | 500               | ...       | = 3,250 "  |              |  |  |  |
| 6-lbs. Green Cormorant at \$1.06½ to 1.06½—500 pcs.; Red Ship at \$1.06½ to 1.06½—1,000 pcs.             |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 1,500 "    |  |  |  |
| 9½-lbs. Horse Head at \$2.04; Black Cormorant at \$1.83½ to 1.84½                                        |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 1,100 "    |  |  |  |
| T-CLOTHS—T T X at \$1.15½—400 pcs.; T T X X X at \$1.25½ to 1.26—100 pcs.                                |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 500 "      |  |  |  |
| WHITE SHIRTINGS—Horse Head at \$1.78½                                                                    |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 200 "      |  |  |  |
| SUNDY AUCTIONS—                                                                                          |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            |              |  |  |  |
| TURKEY RED CAMBRICS—Stag 2½-lbs. at \$1.24½; Lion (damaged) at \$1.09                                    |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 300 "      |  |  |  |
| TURKEY RED T-CLOTHS—Cock 4½-lbs. at \$2.59½                                                              |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 80 "       |  |  |  |
| AMERICAN DRILLS (Damaged)—Dragon at \$2.61½ to 2.61½                                                     |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 250 "      |  |  |  |
| Do. do. Horse at \$2.46½ to 2.59½                                                                        |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 605 "      |  |  |  |
| Do. do. Cock at \$2.54½ to 2.57                                                                          |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 1,800 "    |  |  |  |
| Do. SHEETINGS do. Lion at \$2.55½ to 2.63½                                                               |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 1,920 "    |  |  |  |
| Do. do. do. Cock at \$2.52½ to 2.58                                                                      |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 400 "      |  |  |  |
| Do. do. do. Horse at \$2.52½                                                                             |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 175 "      |  |  |  |
| Do. SHIRTINGS do. Man 14-lbs., at \$2.57 to 2.76                                                         |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 125 "      |  |  |  |
| GREY SHIRTINGS (Damaged)—8½-lbs. Stag at \$1.28½; Steamer at \$1.50                                      |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 150 "      |  |  |  |
| Do. do. 7-lbs. Man and Gun at \$1.14½; Stag 6-lbs., at \$1.06½ to 1.08½                                  |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 230 "      |  |  |  |
| T-CLOTHS (Damaged)—8-lbs Stag XM at \$1.31½ to 1.32½; 7-lbs. YX at \$1.10½; 6-lbs. J at \$0.89½ to 0.89½ |              |              |                    |                    |               |                   |           |            | = 800 "      |  |  |  |



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## COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

JUNE 10, 1879.

**ARRIVALS:**—(Since our last report)—June 5th, British steamer *Cairnsmuir*, from Sydney; 6th, P. & O. steamer *Teheran*, with the English mails, &c.; British steamer *Serapis*, from New York; 7th, British barque *Kinclune*, from Sydney.

**DEPARTURE:**—(Since our last report)—June 3rd, American schooner *Reporter*, for Victorian, V.I.; America barque *C. B. Kenney*, for Victoria, V.I.; 4th, M.M. steamer *Tigre*, with the French mails, &c. For London (from Hankow and Woosung), with Tea:—June 3rd, German steamer *Feronia*; British steamer *Glennearn*; British steamer *Orestes*; British steamer *Afghan*; 8th, British steamer *Radnorshire*.

The P. & O. mail steamer *Zambezi* takes about 600 balcs. of SILK and about 850 tons of TEA.

**FREIGHTS.**—*Alida*, German barque, 386 tons, Nagasaki to Shanghai, 16 lay days, \$1,000, in full; *Hermann*, German barque, 423 tons, Kuchinotsu to Shanghai, despatch, for six trips, \$1.75 per ton of coal; *Lydia*, British barque, 376 tons, Kuchinotsu to Shanghai, despatch, for six trips, \$1.75 per ton of coal; *Falcon*, British barque, 794 tons, Amoy to Channel for orders, private terms; *Sin Nanzing*, British steamer, 714 tons, Newchwang to Shanghai, for three trips, 2 lay days, \$0.18 per picul; *Shun-lee*, British steamer, 1,086 tons, Newchwang to Shanghai, for three trips, 2 lay days, \$0.18 per picul; *El Dorado*, British steamer, 900 tons, Newchwang to Shanghai, for three trips, 2 lay days, \$0.18 per picul; *Hedvig*, British barque, 375 tons, Foochow to Tientsin, for two trips, 50 lay days, \$0.80 per pole; *Gustav & Marie*, German barque, 354 tons, Newchwang to Yokohama, 19 lay days, \$0.25 per picul, if ordered to Hongkong, \$0.45 per picul; *Charley*, British barque, 359 tons, Shanghai to Keelung and back, 16 lay days, \$2.10 per ton of coal; *America*, British steamer, 563 tons, Newchwang to Kobe, 12 lay days, \$0.35 per picul; *Kirkland*, British barque, 453 tons, Nagasaki to Shanghai, 18 lay days, \$1.70 per ton of coal; *Undine*, British barque, 795 tons, Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.85 per ton of coal, for terms.

**EXCHANGE.**—On London, Telegraphic Transfers, 5s. 0½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight 5s. 2d. First-class Credit to Bank, 4 months' sight, 5s. 2½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 2½d. to 5s. 3d. On Paris, Bank, 6.40; Private, 6.61 to 6.63. On India, Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 310 to 312; Calcutta Bank, demand, Rs. 310 to 312. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 25½ to 25¾ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 26 per cent. discount. Bullion, Gold Bars, Peking, Shanghai Tls. 185.00 per bar of 10 Tls. Shanghai weight. Bar Silver, Shanghai Tls. 111.25 per 100 taels Canton weight. Mexican dollars, Shanghai Tls. 75.00 per 100. Copper Cash, 1,465 per tael.

## SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 10th June, 1879.

*Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.*—This stock has been in strong demand for the last few days, in consequence of an advance in London. The last quotation there is said to be £38, equal to about 60% premium. Buyers here offer 55% premium, but no shares are procurable at this rate.

*China Coast Steam Navigation Co.*—Business has been done at £96.

*Shanghai Tug-Boat Association.*—Shares have been sold at £125, and are wanted at this rate.

*Footung Dock Co.*—Shares are offering at £99.

*Compagnie du Gaz.*—A transaction at £145 is reported.

*Chinese Insurance Co.*—Shares have changed hands at \$320. More might be placed at the same rate.

| SHARES.                                              | No.    | Value.   | Paid up. | POSITION PER LAST REPORT. |                     |            | LAST DIVIDEND, &c.           |                  | CASH QUOTATIONS.    |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|----------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
|                                                      |        |          |          | Reserve.                  | At Working Account. | Date.      | To Shareholders.             | When pd. or due. |                     |
| <i>Bank.</i>                                         |        |          |          |                           |                     |            |                              |                  |                     |
| Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation .....        | 40,000 | \$125    | \$125    | \$1,300,000               | \$29,525.50         | 31 Dec. 78 | * £1                         | 18 Feb. 79       | 55% prem., nominal. |
| <i>Steamer Companies.</i>                            |        |          |          |                           |                     |            |                              |                  |                     |
| Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation) ..... | 22,500 | £100     | £6.50    | .....                     | .....               | 30 Dec. 77 | { Return of T. 4 on capital. | 9 Apr. 79        | 12½                 |
| China Coast Steam Navigation Co. ....                | 5,000  | £100     | £100     | £70,249.82                | £24,587.54          | 31 Dec. 78 | + 9 %                        | 11 Mar. 79       | 96                  |
| Shanghai Tug Boat Association .....                  | 900    | £100     | £100     | .....                     | .....               | .....      | 4 %                          | 21 Apr. 79       | 125                 |
| <i>Docks.</i>                                        |        |          |          |                           |                     |            |                              |                  |                     |
| Shanghai Dock Co. ....                               | 440    | £500     | £500     | £10,109.90                | .....               | 30 June 78 | * 2 %                        | 8 Jan. 79        | 238                 |
| Footung Dock Co. ....                                | 950    | £100     | £100     | .....                     | .....               | .....      | * 5 %                        | 9 Jan. 79        | 99                  |
| <i>Gas.</i>                                          |        |          |          |                           |                     |            |                              |                  |                     |
| Shanghai Gas Co. ....                                | 1,500  | £100     | £100     | £9,959.92                 | .....               | 31 Dec. 78 | * 5 %                        | 20 Jan. 79       | 132                 |
| Compagnie du Gaz .....                               | 500    | £100     | £100     | £6,436.23                 | £11.42              | 31 Dec. 78 | * 6 %                        | 17 Feb. 79       | 145                 |
| <i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>                           |        |          |          |                           |                     |            |                              |                  |                     |
| China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited .....          | 600    | 1,666.67 | \$500    | \$225,000.00              | \$92,935.52         | 30 Apl. 78 | 12 %                         | 31 July 78       | 1,300               |
| North-China Ins. Co., .....                          | 1,000  | £2,000   | £600     | £100,000.00               | £285,657.78         | 31 Dec. 78 | £75                          | 16 Apr. 79       | 1,175               |
| Union In. Society of Canton .....                    | £60    | \$2,500  | \$500    | \$262,132.10              | \$21,091.40         | 31 Dec. 77 | + \$160.65                   | 1 May 79         | 1,200 ex dividend.  |
| Yangtze Insurance Association .....                  | 10     | £350     | £350     | £403,214.37               | £9,723.76           | 31 Dec. 78 | * 5 %                        | 28 Apr. 79       | 732½                |
| Chinese Insurance Co., Limited .....                 | 1,000  | \$200    | \$200    | \$74,133.82               | .....               | 30 Dec. 76 | * 6 %                        | 1 Jan. 79        | 320                 |
| <i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>                             |        |          |          |                           |                     |            |                              |                  |                     |
| Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited .....                 | 2,000  | \$1,000  | \$200    | \$701,842.00              | \$271,923.55        | 31 Dec. 78 | + \$57.95 p.sh.              | 26 Feb. 79       | 750                 |
| China Fire In. Co., Limited .....                    | 4,000  | \$500    | \$100    | \$346,896.00              | \$164,354.46        | 31 Dec. 78 | + 12 %                       | 24 Feb. 79       | 180 ex. 72½         |
| <i>Miscellaneous.</i>                                |        |          |          |                           |                     |            |                              |                  |                     |
| Shanghai & H'kei .....                               | 2,150  | £100     | £100     | £5,000.00                 | £2,000.86           | 31 Dec. 78 | * 7 %                        | 25 Feb. 79       | 147                 |

## LOANS.

|                                       | Amount of Loan. | Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentures. | Rate of Interest. | When Payable.          | Closing.     |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1872   | £ 28,700.00     | £ 100.00                              | 8 %               | 30th April & 31st Oct. | £103.64      |
| Do. 1873                              | £ 21,000.00     | £ 100.00                              | "                 | 30th June & 31st Dec.  | £103.30      |
| Do. 1875                              | £ 42,800.00     | £ 100.00                              | "                 | 30th June & 31st Dec.  | "            |
| Do. 1878                              | £ 24,000.00     | £ 100.00                              | "                 | 30th June & 31st Dec.  | £110 do.     |
| Lycium Theatre Ordinary Debentures..  | £ 17,000.00     | £ 25.00                               | "                 | 30th June.             | £ 13 ex int. |
| Do. Preference do.                    | £ 5,362.50      | £ 37.50                               | 5 %               | 31st Dec.              | £ 20 nom.    |
| Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874 | £ 627,615       | £ 100                                 | 8 %               | 30th June & 31st Dec.  | £101 do.     |
| Do. do. 1877                          | £ 1,604,276     | £ 100                                 | 8 %               | 28th Feb. & 31st Aug.  | £109½        |
| Do. do. 1878                          | £ 1,949,500     | £ 500                                 | 8 %               | April and October.     | £510         |

\* For half-year + For year.

J. P. BISSET &amp; Co.

THE WEATHER since our last has alternated from rain to fine, the latter, however, prevailing since Saturday; the temperature being generally mild and pleasant. The thermometer has ranged from 60 to 82.